

# Playground and Recreation

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December, 1930

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## *Leisure* Time—A Modern Challenge

By Lawrence P. Jacks, LL.D.

## Summaries of Discussions at Section Meetings

### A Critical Look at Recreation

By Joseph Lee, LL.D.

### A Look Ahead

By Gene Tunney

### A Modern Perspective

By John H. Finley, LL.D.

### Old World Christmas Customs

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# Playground and Recreation

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## The Theory of the Economic Value of Waste

More and more American people are being urged to buy what they do not need and to replace it before it is worn out. The more we learn to use what we do not need, the greater our consumption; the greater our consumption, the greater our production; the greater our production, the greater our prosperity.

This modern discovery might be called the "Theory of the Economic Value of Waste." If people can be educated to the full realization of their function as wasters, if they can be taught to throw things away before they are worn out, our rate of production can be doubled, tripled, quadrupled, what you will. By this system business need never face the saturation point. For, though there is a limit to what a man can use, there is no limit whatever to what he can waste.

Under this theory, the maximum consumption is made possible by the maximum possible waste, and the economic support for happy and worth while living would be a maximum of waste.

A business man is reported to have said recently, "A man who builds a skyscraper to last more than forty years is a traitor to the business trade." A man who drinks five glasses of water a day is in practice conducting a war of extermination upon all dairymen, soda-jerkers and bootleggers. If man can be persuaded to consume this same amount of liquid per day under some manufactured form, the consumption of manufactured beverages would immediately be increased many per cent.

These statements indicate something of the thought of Kenneth Burke in "Waste—The Future of Prosperity" printed in *The New Republic*, July 16, 1930.

Burke's philosophy is of particular interest to leaders in the recreation movement because through recreation leadership men and women are learning to enjoy themselves without great expense. The promotion of a wise, sane program of recreation for a community is one way of lessening waste and bringing a very much larger measure of happiness without the expenditure of large sums of money.

HOWARD BRAUCHER.



**Seventeenth Annual  
Recreation Congress  
Atlantic City, October 6-11**

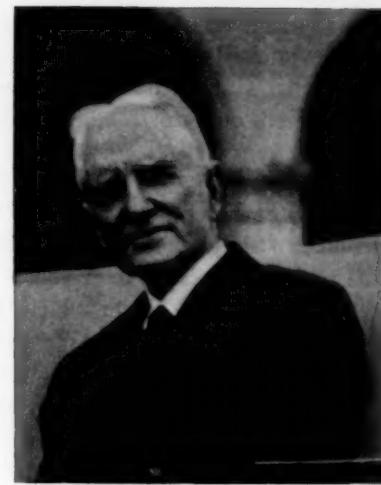


Delegates representing two hundred and twenty-one cities in United States, Canada, England and Bermuda were present.

# Leisure Time— A Modern Challenge

By Lawrence P. Jacks, LL.D.

**A man is no longer master of his own time, as his forefathers were. On every side artful operators have studied his weak points and capitalized his leisure.**



HERE are two great problems which our civilization has to solve. The first is the problem of labor and the other is the problem of leisure. Those two problems are closely entangled, one with the other. I have, myself, had a great deal to do with both of them in the course of my life. But I have come to the conclusion, somewhat late, perhaps, that the problem of leisure is really the more important and more fundamental of the two. I believe that in the future we shall see our social problems shifting their center of gravity more and more from the labor end of life to the leisure end of life.

In what I am about to say to you will no doubt observe that my study of this question of leisure has been conducted under conditions that are peculiar to the country in which I live. And I dare say you may think that some of my observations do not apply to the somewhat different conditions that prevail in this country. If that is so, I can only ask you to pardon me on the ground that Providence ordained for me that I should be born what we call a British subject and not an American citizen. But for that I am not responsible. I was never consulted in the matter.

## Correlation of Mind and Body Culture

At the present time, in all our colleges, as in yours, mind culture and body culture in the form of sports, are both vigorously pursued. But they are pursued to a large extent without any direct relation to each other. And sometimes they are pursued in such ways that instead of supporting and helping each other, our mind culture and our

Dr. L. P. Jacks, internationally known as one of Great Britain's outstanding teachers, authors and philosophers, addressed the Seventeenth Annual Recreation Congress. Since 1903 Dr. Jacks has been professor of Philosophy at Manchester College, Oxford; principal of Manchester College, Oxford, from 1915, and editor of the Hibbert Journal since its foundation in 1902.

body culture somehow seem to get in each other's way.

To illustrate that, I might tell you a short story about a certain distinguished Japanese Professor of Education, who was visiting my country for the purpose of studying our educational methods. In the course of his investigations he came to Oxford, and it fell to my lot to introduce him to our ways of doing things in that University. First of all I took him to hear the lectures of our most distinguished philosophers, and, being a philosopher, himself, he was greatly impressed by what he heard in the lecture rooms. Lastly, after taking him the rounds of the academic side of the University, I took him to see a football match—the athletic side—on the playing field. For a long time he said nothing. He looked on at the match, apparently bewildered, not quite understanding what it all meant. After a time, he made this remark to me: "I cannot understand this. I don't understand your Universities. In your lecture rooms you train the minds of your students as though you meant them to become clergymen, but

on your playing fields you train their bodies as though you meant them to become policemen."

Well, his language was somewhat picturesque, but I think he pointed to a real defect in our present educational system, namely, the want of correlation between our mind culture and our body culture.

#### Leisure Never Safe From Invasion

Now, turning to the problem of leisure, there are certain facts about leisure to which I should like to call your attention—facts which I think are not uncommonly overlooked. In the first place, we need to note that whatever leisure a man happens to have in these days is apt to be interfered with and invaded by the leisure of other people. It would seem as though whenever a man has any leisure of his own, somebody else immediately becomes aware of the fact and begins to exploit it in his own interest, under cover, of course, of serving the interest of the first man. The purveyors of amusement, in particular, get busy and their industry, as I think you must observe, is one of the most profitable of modern times. You must have noticed, I think, that in these times of depressed industrial conditions, the industries that seem least depressed, that seem to be most prosperous, are those which supply the public with ready-made pleasures. That is so, certainly, in my own country, and I have been told it is so here.

A man today is no longer master of his own time, as his forefathers were. On every side he is surrounded by artful operators who have studied his weak points, sometimes with the aid of psychology. Sometimes I think that the principal use that is being made of psychology now is that of studying the weak points of our neighbors with a view to making money out of them. A man is surrounded by operators of this kind who beset him by offers of ready-made pleasures to be purchased at a price. That is what happens when the fact gets known that you have a certain amount of leisure. Somebody will begin to offer you the means of amusing yourself during that leisure for a price. Rather an interesting example of this occurred the other day in one of our great

Lancashire towns, where, as you know, the cotton industry is in a state of great depression.

Outside an establishment devoted to the newly invented sport which the previous speaker did not mention—perhaps you don't have it here—that of greyhound racing, I saw an immense crowd assembled waiting for the gates to open in the middle of the morning. [I might explain to those who are not familiar with it, that greyhound racing is just a gambling affair. It consists in betting on the speed of greyhounds racing on a track in pursuit of an electric hare.]

Outside one of those establishments in the City of Manchester, in a huge circus or stadium, I saw an immense crowd assembled, and on making inquiry I was informed that the vast majority of the crowd were unemployed. Many of the mills in the neighborhood had closed down. But the greyhound racing industry was going full swing.

Some days afterward I met a gentleman who was prominent in the adult education movement, and I asked him whether the increased leisure of that district, owing to unemployment, had caused an increase in the demand for the classes and the courses of lectures which his movement had to offer. He said it had not. There were too many counter-attractions. And he mentioned greyhound

"If I can speak without risk of being misunderstood, I would say this—that the basis for a sound education for leisure is physical culture, and the final object of it is art. A long line connects the two things—the basis, the beginning, and the end. You have to travel a long way before you get from physical culture to art, but if you want to get to art, the point to start is a sound cultural body."

racing as one of them.

Even those of us who are immune from the attractions of the movies and the race course are not masters of our leisure time, at least to the extent that we should like to be. We are largely at the mercy of our neighbors who have facilities for getting at us in our leisure time which were unknown to our grandfathers, such as the telephone, the automobile and such things which people nowadays have at their power to turn our leisure into a series of interruptions; and the more leisure they have the more active they seem to become in destroying ours. And it is well to remember that we are no less active in destroying theirs.

#### Mutual "Botheration" a Foe of Leisure

We spend a great deal of our leisure time today just in mutual "botheration." In whatever con-

ditions a man may be placed, the use that he can make of his own leisure time is always limited by the use that other people are making of theirs.

Much that I have read on the subject of leisure seems to me to be vitiated by an oversight of that fundamental fact. There is Mr. Bertrand Russell, for example—a writer whose books I believe are very widely read in this country. Mr. Bertrand Russell lays it down as one of the marks of a good social system that it gives the citizen ample leisure and untrammelled freedom in the use of it. Those two things—he is to have ample leisure and untrammelled freedom in the use of it.

Now, the provision of ample leisure is simple enough, at least in theory. Mr. Russell gets ample leisure by reducing the working hours to four per day. In his ideal social system nobody will work more than four hours a day. You get your leisure in that way. That is simple enough. The trouble comes in securing for the man the untrammelled use of the remainder of the day. Mr. Russell simplifies the problem, unduly, I think, by supposing a general consent on the part of society that the man in his leisure time shall have free play for his instincts and desires. But when we reflect that all other men would be giving free play to their instincts and desires for twenty hours out of twenty-four, it seems pretty plain that the leisure of the first man will get decidedly interfered with by the doings of the others. A general agreement to abstain from the use of the telephone, except perhaps during the four working hours, might help a little. But we should have to abstain from a good many other things as well before an untrammelled leisure would be possible for anybody.

If a man wants a really untrammelled leisure, there is only one way, so far as I can see, in which he can get it. He must hide himself away in the depths of some inaccessible desert. And I am not sure that he would escape botheration there. Somebody would certainly discover his hiding place and a mission would be sent out to do him good.

Moreover, we have to take account of the fact—and it is a very serious thing to do—that one's leisure time is precisely that part of life where the devil gets his most promising opportunities. One can imagine the rejoicing there would be in the devil's quarters if the working hours were reduced to four per day. No doubt the increase of leisure would give opportunities to good angels as well—or at least to those of us who believe we are on the side of the good angels. And that leads

me to attempt a sort of definition of leisure.

Leisure is that part of a man's life where the struggle between white angels and black for the possession of his soul goes on with the greatest intensity.

As I watched that crowd of unemployed, waiting for the greyhound racing to begin, I could not help feeling that just at that moment the black angels were getting the better of it. That, however, may be only the prejudice of an old fashioned person. But here are a few statistics which may help us to form an idea of the way people nowadays distribute their leisure between the cultivation of their souls and the cultivation of something else. These statistics are American statistics, though I think they are fairly typical of what goes on elsewhere. I take them from a little volume called *Books*, by R. L. Duffus, published in New York.

### How Is Our Leisure Distributed?

Mr. Duffus tells us some very interesting things. Here are some of Mr. Duffus' figures. He tells us that 115,000,000 people in the United States attend the movie theatre every week. And in that way they spend as much money in three weeks as the entire population spends on books in a year. The total national expenditure for books is \$200,000,000 per annum. The total national expenditure on motor cars is \$3,000,000,000 per annum. The American public pays for books one-half of one per cent. of its income. As a result of elaborate calculations, Mr. Duffus concludes that the average American buys two books and borrows two books from the library every year.

From an official bulletin issued by your government, we get the following: The national bill for candy is 27 times as large as the national bill for books. For the movies, 22 times. For the radio, 12½ times. For soft drinks, 11 times. The government report does not give us the amount spent by Americans on hard drinks.

Not all books that are bought or borrowed can be classed as tending to the cultivation of a man's soul—especially those which are borrowed and not returned. On the other hand, the leisure occupations indicated by the other figures must not be set down as though they had no cultural value—though certainly there is not much cultural value in candy, on which the public spends 27 times as much as it spends on books. But when allowance has been made for all that, the figures do seem to me to strengthen my contention that just

now the devil is going rather strong on the leisure end of life.

I must now pass on to another of the facts to which I think some attention needs to be called—and that is the intimate connection that exists between what goes on at the leisure end of life and what goes on at the labor end of life, the intimate connection between the two, or, if you will, the intimate connection between the work and the play of civilization.

### The Search for Ready-Made Pleasures

Whenever a man's labor is monotonous so that it exhausts his body without interesting his mind, his leisure is almost certain to be occupied in searching for some kind of external excitement, something which gives relief from boredom and which the entire body actually craves. And you will have industries springing up for the supply of just those pleasures. Now, as for the industries which supply the ready-made pleasures of the tired man, they, of course, have to be carried on by some kind of labor. So that you obviously get into a circle. An enormous amount of industrial labor at the present time is occupied in satisfying the demand which comes from the leisure end of life for ready-made pleasures.

You may ask what kind of ready-made pleasures are most sought after by those engaged in monotonous labor as a relief from boredom and as a stimulus to tired senses. Well, there are four

which cover most of the ground. I place first the sex motive, which often works most effectively, of course, by a mere suggestion. The second is gambling, in one or another of its countless forms. The third is outward display, which mostly takes the form of dress and is not, of course, unconnected with sex. And the fourth is sight-seeing, which again takes endless forms—looking at scenery, looking at athletic performances, looking at shows of one kind or another. I give you those four things as covering most of these ready-made pleasures which are supplied for those who are in search of such things: The sex motive;

gambling; dress, and sight-seeing. There are many others, of course, but those four I think will account for the major part of the external excitements and ready-made pleasures which the labor of the community has to provide in order to satisfy the demand that comes from the leisure end.

If time allowed, I should like to explain the reasons which lead me to give first place on that list to the sex motive. I will only say that the presence of this element seems to me almost ubiquitous as a factor in determining both the demand and supply of popular amusement. Look through the illustrated advertisements in any popular magazine and you will find on every page—whether the advertisement be that of a motor car, a dental preparation, a brand of cigarettes, a floor polish, a photographic camera or a seaside resort—the desirable sex figure, almost invariably, generally in the form of a pretty woman. And the cinema theatre and the popular novel are, of course, saturated with it. And that is one of those things which have been from the beginning, are now and I suppose ever will be.

To deal with this element by methods of repression or prohibition or condemnation, seems to me about as futile as the attempt to abolish the ocean tide. If educators could find a means of harnessing this universal force to their own ends I should feel that the millennium was much nearer than it now seems to be.

I could offer an abundance of what are commonly known as views on this subject, but I have seen a few experiments in my time which convince me that the most promising line of attack on the problem of leisure, especially as connected with sex, is not the line of moral exhortation. It consists, rather, of an attempt to arouse the love of beauty and to stimulate the creative side of human nature.

### A Notable Experiment

May I give you a brief description of such an experiment? Possibly you know of it as well as



A group at Big Pines Camp, Los Angeles Co., make "an appeal to their capacity of creative skill."

I do. But even if you do know of it, I should take a particular pleasure in referring to it on this occasion, because I believe that the author of this experiment is actually present among us tonight. I came across it last year in the City of Philadelphia. There is in that city, as many of you know, a gentleman named Samuel S. Fleisher, who is an enthusiast for adult education—but not adult education which consists only of classes, courses of lectures and book learning.

"Let us appeal," said Mr. Fleisher, "to the love of the beautiful in young people. Let us appeal to their capacity for creative skill"—which he believes that every human being possesses in some degree. So he founded an institution which he called simply by one of the names that would be applied to any Arts Club. He staffed it with skilled instructors and announced to the young men and women of Philadelphia that he was ready to train them in the paths of dutiful achievements, from physical culture, as the basis, to the finest of the fine arts.

He worked on those lines. Instead of appealing to the love for and desire for books, he appealed to something deeper. He filled his building with works of art, furnished it in the most beautiful taste, and bought an Episcopal Church which abutted the building, and he called it a sanctuary, where no services are held and no sermons preached, but where anybody who feels inclined can go for silent meditation and prayer.

That was Mr. Fleisher's idea of educating young men and women. He told me that when he started his experiment, many people in Philadelphia said that he had lost his reason. But when I was there last year there were other people in Philadelphia who told me that Mr. Fleisher was the one man in the city who had most conspicuously retained his reason. That institution has been in existence for thirty years and is now besieged by applicants for admission. I went the rounds of the many workshops and studios in it, and I saw there some of the best native art work that I found in America. But I think what impressed me most in Mr. Fleisher's admirable institution was the dignity and the beauty of his physical culture, which had been made into a really fine art. And it occurred to me that it would be the salvation of tens of thousands of young men and women in our cities if they could be put through just that kind of training.

I think there is great truth in the saying that I heard not long ago, that while a few people in this world are turned into saints by the cultivation

of their souls, there are millions turned into sinners by neglecting the cultivation of their bodies.

In Mr. Fleisher's theory of education, mind and body are not treated as separate. He treats them as one. He evidently believes in the co-education of mind and body. I think he is right. The co-education of mind and body is more important even, to my mind, than the co-education of men and women. On the whole, I have never seen a more successful attempt at education for leisure which is what some of us regard as supremely important at the present time.

#### Education for Leisure

And I should like to end my remarks by briefly indicating what form education for leisure should take. I do so with difficulty. But I shall try to give a brief, rough sketch of the form that education for leisure should take. I give it to you with difficulty, because the language that I am going to use is very easily misunderstood. But if I can speak without risk of being misunderstood, I would say this—that the basis for a sound education for leisure is physical culture, and the final object of it is art.

A long line connects the two things—the basis, the beginning, and the end. You have to travel a long way before you get from the physical culture to art. But if you want to get to art, the point to start from is a sound cultural body, though you will have to travel a long way before you get there.

In this sort of education, the elementary stage would not be reading, writing and doing sums, the need for which is a very late arrival in the history of man. The need for reading and writing is no older than the printing press. But the need for the positive education of the body is as old as man, himself.

The kind of education I am in favor of would begin much further back than reading and writing. Hearsay knowledge, "booksay" knowledge, which now constitute the stock-in-trade of our schools and colleges, would be included in my system at their proper stage; but the stock-in-trade would be much more varied than that. After booksay and hearsay knowledge has been acquired it ought to be transformed into some kind of skill. Such a system would be an education both for leisure and for labor. It would kill the two birds with one stone. And we might call it the co-education of mind and body.

The people who have conceived that education  
(Continued on page 519)

# The Empire of Machines

**The rate of development of new tools and new machinery is increasing so rapidly that the problem growing out of their use is progressively and rapidly becoming more acute.**

## Honoring Craftsmen

PROFESSOR L. P. JACKS is again in America. There is a widespread wish that he might stay for a year or two to make a first-hand study of our leisure-time problem which grows in importance with the shrinking of our labor week and the consequent enlargement of free time. No one has applied a more discerning mind to this problem of labor and leisure, and no one has written more informingly or interestingly about it since the Son of Sirach, whose essay in Ecclesiasticus is the most beautiful bit of literature on the subject.

Conditions have mightily changed since that remote time when smith and potter and engraver without restriction of hours set their hearts upon perfecting their works, or were wakeful to adorn them perfectly. What was done yesterday in recognizing the high type of modern craftsmanship on the part of mechanics in the construction of the Empire State Building is an illustration of the effort to preserve those values which grow out of personal interest and pride in the contribution of united skills to the finished thing of beauty and utility.

"To work skillfully is the true vocation of man," is Dr. Jack's thesis; but unhappily for millions there is no skill required beyond pressing a lever of a machine which makes a fractional part of a product to which the individual workman's own contribution is impersonal. Out of this situation grows the necessity of finding in the leisure time, either voluntary or compelled, the means of self-development and of the enlargement of personal gifts to his community or country. He is otherwise reduced to the fraction of a man. His leisure should help him to discover and develop himself as "the whole man."

Next week at the annual convocation of the  
(Continued on page 520)

## Machinery and Man

WILL the net result of the emergence of the Empire of Machines be misery, increased unemployment, idleness, debauchery and the disintegration of morale and civilization? Or will it come to mean less drudgery, more rapid meeting of our material needs, widely distributed prosperity, ample leisure and intelligent use of this increased spare time? This is the outstanding challenge to humanity today. Upon its answer depends the fate of civilization.

The issue is well stated by President Donald E. Ross of Purdue University:

"When a civilization finds its people producing the required maximum during a given work period, then the rest period or time of idleness will be prolonged. With the perfectly automatic mechanization of production but few hours per week will be needed to supply the wants of humanity. One great problem ahead for all far-seeing educators is that of the profitable employment of leisure. Whether this yields a vicious outcome or results in pure pleasure seeking or whether we shall approach a new cultural and ethical era is yet to be determined.

"The use of power and automatic mechanisms forces a new responsibility on all those charged with formulating the policies for future technical training. A holiday in research and invention has been proposed in order that humanity may catch up. How much better it would be boldly to face the problem and solve it for humanity in general rather than for a few!"

The time is past when boards of control of educational institutions may regard their positions as honorary. They must realize that they have before them the greatest research problem that civilization has ever faced—that is, to see that all humanity may have and enjoy the results of de-

(Continued on page 520)

# Summaries of Discussions at Section Meetings

## What Is an Adequate Recreation Life for the Individual?

FREDERICK RAND ROGERS

*Director, Health and Physical Education Division State Education Department, Albany, New York*

**A**S a new comer to the Congress of the National Recreation Association, I wish to felicitate its officers and sponsors on the standard of conduct and accomplishment maintained in the various discussion groups, for you have already realized a goal which the most enlightened educators have long been hoping to attain in their conventions. For example, the group which sought to determine "What is an adequate recreation life for the individual?" raised problems of paramount significance to all in public recreation work, and formulated challenges which must eventually enlarge the basic policies and programs of recreation directors everywhere.

May I take this opportunity to urge every delegate to this Congress who is also a member of any educational organization to transfer to educational conventions the spirit and machinery of this Congress, with its Chairmen, discussion leaders and pre-announced questions to stimulate research and exchange of opinions. Further, I recommend that the question, "What is an adequate recreation life for the individual?" be continued as a main topic of discussion next year, for the hour given to it in this year's program was sufficient only to reveal its importance.

The Chairman opened the meeting by observing that the variety of activities suited to leisure time is without number, and that any conception of recreation in terms of playground activities alone must be forever abandoned. "Granted," countered a discussion leader, "but we are immediately faced with the problem of relative values. We cannot provide innumerable activities for all people." He then proposed a scientific approach to a solution of the problem of relative values in the form of a ballot to be marked by every individual who might be served by the local organization. This ballot listed several scores of activities to be checked according to preference,

together with blanks for the name, age, sex and other information to be filled in by the voter. The speaker suggested the need for a general, perhaps a nation-wide survey, along these lines, to discover the true interests of individuals, and for two reasons—first, to secure a mandate from the public, covering what activities to offer, and second, to discover whether there are any psychological or natural interests for different age groups, irrespective of environment or leadership.

At this point, two questions were raised: First, since present interests are conditioned largely by training, is an analysis thereof a proper key to the determination of future programs? It was generally agreed that the ballot or questionnaire method should be used to determine present interests, but is not safe as a sole guide to future policies.

The second question was a crystallization of the thoughts aroused by the first. It was: Shall we accept present interests as the basis for future programs, or shall we give our clients what they ought to have?

Your summarizer regrets that time prevents him from exposing the grave danger, if not the colossal egotism, involved in assuming that we know better than the individual what is best for him. Perhaps we do, when we take a short view of life. I am not so sure of my ground when we take a longer look ahead. However, the vote of the group was that we should do both, that is, "give them what they want, and what they ought to have, too."

Another critic was provoked to report that Europeans are happy in normal living, while we find it necessary to seek joy in relatively artificial activities, organized and often conducted by others. This speaker urged that we establish good habits very early in life. Still another made the excellent point that life in civilized society becomes progressively more complex, and that natural living becomes accordingly, progressively more difficult to attain. Therefore, we must aid the unfortunate possessor of civilized culture to enjoy artificial, because organized, activities. He pointed out three things which must be kept central in whatever we impose on our subjects.

1. The task must be challenging to the powers of the individual.

2. It must, however, be within reach of success, and

3. Its completion must bring social approval.

Your summarizer would fail completely to interpret to this Congress the spirit of the meeting did he not report that ever and anon the point was made that what is play for one is work for another; also that recreation fundamentally is an attitude of mind rather than a form of activity.

This contribution of the philosophic members of the group was always supplemented by three rules of conduct which those of a more practical mind enunciated, and which were agreed to by formal votes:

1. There must be a balance of activity in the life of every individual. Although the man with a single interest may pursue it happily, it in turn may destroy him.

2. At least one hobby, apart from one's primary occupation, is essential to maintain the balance.

3. If any individual's prime interest or occupation is solitary, his hobby should be social; and if his prime interest in life is almost exclusively mental, his hobby should involve an abundant physical activity.

#### What Can Society Do and What Must the Individual Do for Himself to Further Abundant Life?

PROFESSOR ROBERT L. FLOWERS

*Duke University, Durham, North Carolina*

The subject under discussion in this section was a very broad one, necessitating a definition of what is meant by the "abundant life" and by "society." The abundant life was defined as being the life of an individual who had a free opportunity to express himself individually and through the group.

The question was raised as to whether we might not in our organized movement for recreation and sports sometimes crush out the individuality of the boy or girl. It was the consensus of opinion, however, that we should give opportunities so wide and so varied that any individual might have freedom in choosing the form of recreation most appealing to him.

As I came into the hall this morning I heard a man say, "I got a new idea about sport last night after hearing Professor Kennedy." He brought out the best values to be derived from

organized competitive sport. I have been connected with an educational institution for a good many years and I think I can realize something of the meaning of what Professor Kennedy was discussing last night. There is an educational and moral value that comes from organized competitive sport.

I know that we sometimes hear educational institutions criticized because of the interest that is taken in competitive contests. I know they are sometimes criticized for the amount of money spent in providing facilities for all forms of athletic sports, but those who are most familiar with the situation know perfectly well that there are great values to be derived and if we do what is suggested by Professor Kennedy—coordinate the physical and mental processes—then we would achieve greater results.

There is a great value that comes from a public interest—the interest of the general public in sport. There are men and women at this Congress today who are just as much interested in the World Series of baseball games now going on as though they were seated in a box in St. Louis or Philadelphia—and it is a good thing for people to be interested in sport and recreation, even though they may not be able to participate.

What can society do and what can the individual do to provide not only for the adult but primarily for recreation for youth? The time is coming when the question of leisure in this country is going to be one of the chief questions we have to confront. There is unemployment and the invention of machinery is going to make the working day and the working week shorter. The question therefore is not purely an academic one, but a serious one which confronts you and every man and woman who is interested in recreation and in the public good. Professor Jacks said last night—and you and I realize the truth of this statement—that the forces of evil get in their best work when boys and girls have nothing to occupy their spare hours.

#### Recreation Objectives for the Community

MRS. FREDERICK BEGGS

*Chairman, Board of Recreation, Paterson, New Jersey*

In discussing this subject it was felt that the main objective was adequately phrased in the statement that "every child in America shall have a chance to play—that everyone in America, young or old, shall have an opportunity to find the best and most satisfying use of leisure time."

Some time was given to examining the full meaning of the word "chance" in connection with the subject, and it was brought out that a chance to play must include favorable social environment, good health standards, and some way of learning how to use and enjoy the opportunities at hand—opportunities at hand being either the natural conditions found in rural communities or the facilities provided in cities and towns.

The recreation objectives for a community were listed very completely by Mr. Brewer of Detroit, as follows:

The provision of a safe place to play for the children. There were 560,000 injuries to children last year, resulting in 600 deaths. It was found that the great majority were accidents to children playing in the streets. So the conservation of child life and of some of the man-power of our country was included under that objective—the provision of a safe place to play for the children.

Second came the reduction of juvenile delinquency. It was brought out that we spend \$5,000,000,000 a year on prisons and reformatories and only \$33,000,000 a year on playgrounds, and that the average age in one state prison, at least, was 29.

Third—education and character building

Fourth—the development of health and physique

Fifth—good citizenship and the breaking down of racial prejudice and antipathy toward foreigners

Sixth—the provision of adequate facilities for both old and young, to develop and to find an outlet for their recreational interests

Seventh—the development of good leadership

Eighth—the development of harmony within the American home by the organization of adult games and activities. (Mr. Brewer's point was that if a man had a chance to beat another man at quoits, he wouldn't go home and beat his wife.)

Ninth—development of community pride

Tenth—functioning of the community, as a whole, to give a well rounded life to its inhabitants

Eleventh—the ability to realize the economic value to the community at large of an adequate recreation program—in other words, happier employees and fewer strikes.

To this list of objectives were added during the ensuing discussion the objective of fun, good times, happiness and also crime prevention. A

word of caution was sounded here in the statement that a city is not justified in spending large sums for recreation unless these objectives are being realized to some extent.

Another suggested objective was the provision of special programs for those whose working hours do not permit them to take advantage of existing programs; more especially the employees of the city, itself, who come under this category. Street cleaners and people who take care of offices and public buildings were mentioned.

In connection with the main topic, several interesting questions and problems came up for discussion and valuable contributions were made by many of the executives from their own experiences in their several communities. Briefly, they were as follows:

Shall a supervisor of recreation confine himself to providing programs and facilities for groups already in existence, or shall he seek to organize groups as well? It was decided that there is a vast stratum of individuals not touched by existing groups and that certainly it should be the aim of a community program to reach those people.

Another question: What has been done, if anything, to absorb unemployment? It was found that a number of cities, through their recreation departments, have undertaken definite steps in this direction through construction programs. It was suggested that contacts with labor unions at this time would be very valuable, and also the organization of recreation activities for those who are out of work.

Does the existence of private organizations, it was asked, tend to interfere with the community program and to place at a remote distance the ultimate acceptance by government—municipal, state and national—of its full responsibility? It was the general consensus of opinion that whereas this last result may be of degree true, at the same time the adequate functioning of private organizations in many instances has proved the necessity for their activities, and has forced governmental recognition of the conditions existing and the need for a wider scope of activity and for community assistance.

It was also brought out that the children today who are enjoying recreational privileges of these organizations are the voters of tomorrow who will put over the bond issues and the other legislation necessary to carry on the ever increasing recreation programs. Therefore, it was concluded that we have no quarrel with existing agencies, but

should co-operate with them and hope they will widen their scope.

In answer to the question: "How best can the approach be made to business men to interest them," it was suggested that these men must be approached in their own terms and convinced of the value of the program, convinced that the interests that are being brought into the lives of the children now will be carried over into adult life in the use of their leisure time. It is almost more valuable to us right now, it was stated, to provide that education for leisure in adult life than to provide healthful play. We must have city planning and it must be wise city planning. Dr. Nicholas Murray Butler was quoted as having said it was vastly more important that our schools train for the wise use of leisure. So the hookup there between education and the national recreation movement was brought out.

The last thought was that recreation directors must take stock of themselves and of their communities and must create recreation-minded communities by selling the programs to the communities. In other words, the program itself must extend into all interests and all the lives of the people of the community.

#### What Constitutes an Adequate Recreation System for a City?

LOUIS C. SCHROEDER

*William E. Harmon Memorial Field Secretary, National Recreation Association*

Much hinges on the word "adequate." What is adequate depends on our point of view, that is, on consideration of the future needs as to what will be adequate. We must find out how much free time the people have. People will have more leisure time in the future. The American Federation of Labor Conference held at Boston recently recommended a five-day week.

A recreation system should include playgrounds, play fields, athletic fields, parks, where both passive and active recreation may be had. The latter is claiming more and more attention. There must be bathing beaches, pools, facilities for outings, such as are offered in Westchester County, New York, and facilities for camping, boating, swimming, as offered at Bear Mountain, New York.

We must not forget that commercialized recreation has its place, as evidenced by the theatre on Broadway or by the small town theatre, by the Little Theatre movement or by the amateur theatricals and music in public and high schools.

We must enlist the interest of the city planners in laying out areas. Spaces must be secured in congested districts—veritable islands of safety in this "age of the ants," so our children will be protected. In Los Angeles, the Federation of Women's Clubs became interested in home play. Representatives of twenty different organizations attended their meetings. A playground course for fathers and mothers was organized. It is meeting with a great response, and many back-yard playgrounds have been established.

In the large congested areas proper space is a real problem. In New York, where the cost of land is prohibitive, a survey disclosed there were 25 acres of space available on the roofs of the public schools. There was enough space provided to be utilized during the hours of the day, from eight in the morning until ten at night.

There must be more intensive use of the facilities we now have. A careful survey will frequently show some available public property often passed by which has been unused for years. Some cities report the tearing down of old tenements and the re-plotting of the area with wider streets, parks and playgrounds. The city sells the land back to its citizens. It does not cost them anything for the improvements. Those from smaller cities report that the ten acre lot is the most economical.

Periods of recreation for children are becoming increasingly difficult to find. Recreations for children are becoming college sports. Children are aping their college brothers and sisters. Football is no longer a game, but a drill. Children are all dated up for bridge parties, and similar events.

Let the children have some recreation in their childhood was the plea.

The artistic talents of children are frequently stamped out by the school. The problem is to keep the stream going, that is, in the pre-school age, the school age and the post-school age. It is a mistake to set up the program and fit individuals into that program. Let them choose their activities.

There are two groups of children frequently overlooked. First, the over-privileged who are the potential leaders of the future. In their areas may be found fine lawns and grounds which afford play facilities. The second group is made up of the cheated children of the congested areas. We must bring the playground to them. This has been done in Chicago, where the playground rolls to them once or twice a week. Experiment has proved it to be worth while. It costs less and

gives immediate service. We must reach out into every corner of community life. We must enlist the interests of all citizens so that they recognize the true values of recreation. We must also look after all of their interests.

"Adequate" is a significant word. It must be tied up with wider points of view, to conditions of modern life.

1. More land must be secured in advance.
2. An adequate budget must be provided, not only on a yearly basis but over a longer period of time.
3. We must have a more adequate notion of areas where recreation is to be provided. Officials must look beyond the narrow city boundaries.

### What Is an Adequate State Recreation Program?

HERBERT EIVISON

*Executive Secretary, National Conference on State Parks, Washington, D. C.*

Our subject dealt with the state's part in recreation, rather than with recreation carried on on a statewide scale through agencies other than the state. There appeared to be general agreement that the state had a place in the general recreation scheme, although not a dozen can be said really to have realized it; that its function was distinct alike from that of the nation in its selection and administration of national parks and from that of the city, county or metropolitan park district in connection with parks or playgrounds. But no very clearly defined ideas emerged as to what this difference was, especially as to character of recreation provided.

The state, it may be said, should provide those necessary recreational facilities which are not logically to be expected of other public agencies or which will not be satisfactorily provided by private enterprise. Highly organized play is not, I believe, one of them. The great opportunities of state parks which provide the machinery by which most state recreation activities are carried forward, lie first in their inspirational qualities, which are truly recreational, and second in their development and unfolding of the individuality and independence of action and thought and spirit that modern mass habits of life tend so strongly to repress.

There seemed to be general agreement that the state should preserve its outstanding scenic resources as well as the best of those resources

which are primarily adapted to active recreation, in the latter case especially with logical reference to population distribution. The difficulty of attaining the latter objective in many states was emphasized by John Nolen, who called attention to the fact that modern planning tends to consider the region rather than the state, with its boundary lines so totally unrelated to population distribution. The beaches are a case in point; we need only to look around us to realize what an opportunity is being lost, not only to New Jersey but to New York, Pennsylvania and possibly Delaware, by this state's failure as yet to acquire adequate areas of ocean shore.

There appeared to be general agreement that recreation activities conducted by the state should be under the direction of a recreation supervisor, though I judge there might be disagreement as to the auspices under which such an official would serve. His work, as one delegate suggested, could wisely be extended to the promotion of recreation programs in state institutions.

State park acreage figures for a number of states were presented, but they are scarcely significant by themselves. The 47,000 acres of Palisades Interstate Park, for example, surely perform at least as valuable a recreation function as the 1,900,000 acres of Adirondack Park.

I judge it would be agreed that, as a condition precedent to the establishment of systems of state parks, there should be an inventory of the state's actual and potential recreation resources.

Almost every conceivable method is now employed by one state or another in providing funds for recreation facilities. One discussion leader stressed his belief that if the state is going to recognize recreation as a legitimate function it should be supported by the taxpayers. This contention is one on which state park authorities disagree violently. Many hold that while the machinery should be so provided, supplemented, of course, by gifts, it should be kept moving and in repair by the users.

In most states state participation in recreation work is still only at its beginning. Its prime needs are: A better understanding of the field and function of state parks; better principles of selection; better planning; more skilled administration, and a sharper realization that, as far as natural beauty and its recreation values go, the establishment of a state park marks merely the beginning rather than the accomplishment of its preservation.

**What May Be Reasonably Expected of a National Government in the Recreation Field?**

HARLEAN JAMES

*Executive Secretary, The American Civic Association, Inc., Washington, D. C.*

Robert Sterling Yard of the National Parks Association called attention to the vast area in public lands—700,000 square miles—which, if crowded into the Northeastern section of the United States, would cover the States from Maine to the Mississippi and as far south as the southern line of Tennessee, with an area left over.

The public lands include the following:

Public domain .....	303,000	square miles
National forests .....	286,000	" "
Other (not National)		
Parks .....	99,000	" "
National Parks .....	12,218	" "

Included in the 99,000 square miles listed as "Other (not National) Parks" are national monuments, wild life refuges, reclamation or water power projects, naval and military reservations including parks and forests, lighthouse and fisheries reservations, oil and other mineral withdrawals, Indian reservations, and all other Federal lands.

On the basis of the best estimates available, it is thought that the number of visitors annually run about:

National Forests (probably).....	20,000,000
Elsewhere (except National Parks) .	10,000,000
National Parks .....	2,500,000

Mr. Yard pointed out that Congress expends annually on the National Parks one dollar a visitor, while in the national forests the cost was one-half cent per visitor, per year. The task before us, therefore, is to see that the Federal government meets its responsibilities in providing recreation facilities on Federal lands other than national parks.

In the discussion it was brought out that the U. S. Forest Service is serving an increasing number of visitors, though no record is kept of the number. The Service issues permits to outside persons to operate 1,115 hotels and resorts in 160 National Parks. There are also 10,347 individual residences, at prices from \$25.00 up, for leases. There are 1,500 public camp grounds, financed by the Forest Service. Other recreation facilities will be added as money is available, always keeping in mind the primary purposes of the forests—the growing of timber and the pro-

tection of watersheds—with grazing and recreation as secondary uses.

It appears that existing national organizations cooperate with the National Park Service and the U. S. Forest Service in recreation and other matters. The American Civic Association deals with all Federal lands and the Federated Societies on Planning and Parks has issued a book called, "What about the year 2,000?" which deals with the subject of land uses and population, including recreation. The National Parks Association confines its activities to national parks, the American Forestry Association specializes in national forests, and the American Civic Association, as the leader in the fight to create the National Park Service, has ever since specialized on national parks.

Attention was called to the fact that the cost of administration of the national parks, including preservation of the finest scenery and most interesting wild life, could hardly be assessed entirely to recreation and compared with actual recreation administration in the national forests. The National Park Service has recently set up an educational service which under Dr. Harold Bryant will add greatly to the intelligent appreciation of the national parks. It was thought that the National Recreation Association would be an appropriate body to call together interested organizations to co-operate in a possible recreation program for Federal lands other than national forests and national parks.

Ella Gardner, of the Children's Bureau, explained that the Bureau had on its staff a recreation specialist. The work is of three types. The Bureau primarily devotes itself to research. It has published two game manuals, one for teachers in schools in Porto Rico, and one for those who work with blind children, a folder on back-yard playground equipment, and a report upon dance hall legislation as it affects adolescents. There is a report in preparation on leisure time activities of rural girls and boys in West Virginia and a manual of games and programs for rural groups.

In the field, the Children's Bureau co-operates with the Agricultural Extension Service Divisions of the United States Department of Agriculture in training junior and adult leaders of the agricultural clubs in recreation programs. This has included Institutes that average eight to twelve hours of games, song leading, informal dramatics and program planning. The Bureau's recreation specialist also meets with clubs and

other organizations. As rapidly as time permits, the problems of home play, methods of financing and promoting recreation programs for very small towns and rural areas, and standards in equipment will be taken up.

Municipal recreation departments can obtain from the Children's Bureau literature on play, assistance in leader training and investigation of special questions if the problems involved are general ones. Private groups and national organizations may also avail themselves of this service under certain conditions.

The discussion group voted enthusiastically that it would be profitable if the work of the Children's Bureau in recreation could be expanded, to reach more of the isolated and helpless communities, the demand from which it has not the personnel to supply.

Dr. Marie M. Ready, of the Bureau of Education, called attention to the interest of the Bureau in recreation over a long period of years. She said that since the announcement of the President's Conference on Recreation, practically every specialist in the Bureau had turned his attention to recreation. The Bureau has studied playgrounds in connection with schools. The list of institutions giving professional courses has increased from 75 a few years ago to 285 at the last listing.

Sibyl Baker, Director of Community Center Department, Public Schools of the District of Columbia, spoke on the question: Can the National Government establish a model recreation system in the City of Washington?

The City of Washington pays for its own recreation. (The National Capital has no large industries and no great wealth. It is a city of clerks on government salaries.) The National Capital Park and Planning Commission has an extensive recreation plan, but unless the Federal Government can be persuaded to assist in carrying out that program, it is absolutely impossible for Washington to provide a model recreation system.

In conclusion: The Federal Government has a clear duty to develop recreation to meet demands, insofar as compatible with other uses, on all Federally owned lands. There are great possibilities for expansion in the programs of the Children's Bureau and the Bureau of Education. The Federal Government could, by giving financial support, assist the District of Columbia to develop a model recreation system.

### Trends in American Life Which Affect Recreation—What Is Being Done to Meet Them?

DR. H. M. J. KLEIN

*Professor of History, Franklin and Marshall College, Lancaster, Pennsylvania*

Dr. Lowell, of Harvard, is authority for saying that the art of life consists in knowing what the problem is which is to be solved. Now, without engaging in the American rhapsody of self-praise, I want to congratulate this organization upon the fact that it has in it few evidences of self-complacency. It is honestly seeking to know the problem in the light of 1940 and not to think about it in the light of 1920.

We are willing to engage in re-adjustment to new conditions. And that is the reason for the assignment of this problem on American traits and American trends. The interesting thing is that all the evening speeches of this week have been a discussion of this very problem of "whither are we going in civilization?"

The first speaker was L. H. Weir, who discussed, first, the change in the living habitat of our people—the rapid tendency of the nation to become a city dwelling people—the danger of a gradually deteriorating physical stamina. He referred to the increase in suicides during the past year—eighteen out of one thousand—and to the fact that the largest number of suicides were found in California.

The second tendency referred to by Mr. Weir was the vast increase in the use of machinery; the third, the increase of leisure time; the fourth, the question of unemployment.

Thomas L. Cotton, of the Foreign Language Information Service, New York City, spoke of the possibility of contacts with organizations of foreign born groups in America. There are three hundred of national scope. He spoke of the tendency of the second generation toward crime and delinquency; of the necessity of a give-and-take process in dealing with peoples of foreign culture.

The conclusions arrived at by the session, were,

1. That the Foreign Language Information Service can be of great help to the National Recreation Association in its work and that members of the National Recreation Association should send material to the Foreign Language Information Service for publication, with a view to establishing contacts.

2. The time to help these organizations is

NOW, because they are disposed to co-operate.

Sibyl Baker, director of the Community Center Department of the Public Schools of Washington, D. C., discussed the question of the rural inhabitant in the city. The "House for Strangers" in Detroit was referred to as a model. It was concluded that the lonely stranger in the city was a fit subject for consideration by the National Recreation Association.

These were all interesting trends—straws showing how the wind blows.

Two very striking things were emphasized by Mr. Weir. One was the suburban trends in communities in which the outlying districts grow more rapidly than the city centers, and the conclusion was arrived at that it was absolutely necessary to work with the City Planning Commission, not only in its work within the cities but in its work relating to the suburbs for future parks and playgrounds. The other thought referred to by Mr. Weir was that in the next decade those who plan will pay attention not primarily to the mode of efficiency for cumulative production and the value of things, but to the development of men.

I shall conclude with this thought, from Albert Schweitzer, the Swiss philosopher:

"Civilization can only revive when there shall come into being in a number of individuals a new tone of mind, independent of the one prevalent among the crowd and in opposition to it at times—a tone of mind which will gradually win influence over the collective one and in the end determine its character. The final decision as to what the future of a society shall be depends not on how near its organization is to perfection, but on the degree of worthiness in the individual members."

And with that ideal in mind, based on the re-valuation of values, as expressed by Mr. Weir, it seems to me that this organization is not only facing the problem with a splendid vision, but is ready to engage in the task of developing American civilization with a view to the years 1940 and 1950.

#### Standards of Recreation for American Families

JULIA D. CONNER

Assistant Director, *Better Homes in America*,  
Washington, D. C.

A general discussion of this subject developed three major questions.

1. Is community recreation sufficient even when it provides a type of amusement for every age group, including parents and children?

2. Is it the responsibility of the community recreation movement to provide home play activities and encourage home play?

3. Is it the business of recreation organizations in stimulating the idea of companionship within the home to carry on with that an education toward the deeper meanings of family unity; and if it is, how can it be done?

The conclusions arrived at were as follows:

1. Community recreation is not filling the need for family recreation. It was pointed out that the success of community centers is measured largely by the numbers of persons using them, and the increase in those numbers is indicative of a scattering of the family in its recreation instead of a welding. A program which is recognizing that fact is now being developed by the Y. M. H. A. and the Y. M. C. A. of New York, which are formulating programs for entire families

2. It was felt to be definitely a responsibility of the community recreation group to promote home play for all members of the family. It was further suggested that a home play program would help to sell a community recreation program to a city.

3. Some suggested steps for procedure were:

(a) A survey to determine how children are finding their way—1. In underprivileged homes; 2. In privileged homes; 3. In average homes.

(b) Parental education which might be brought about in the following ways:

(1) Reviewing by parents of their own childhood play experiences and reactions, and comparing them with experiences and reactions of their children

(2) Leadership of an outside group which would help parents to solve their own problems

(3) Reading of books in which authors look back upon their own experiences and try to interpret them

(4) Reading of fiction which interprets child life

(5) Community institutes which would provide opportunity for parents to present and discuss individual problems

(6) Provision of comfortable places and benches where parents (particularly mothers) who are too tired to play, or may not care to play, can watch their children at play, learn their games, note their reactions and attitudes and be able to interpret them into home activities.

It is further suggested:

1. That the National Recreation Association act as a clearing house for information on the problems of home recreation and be prepared to offer suggestions and develop ideas along that line.

2. That much information could be gained for this purpose through a questionnaire prepared and distributed by the National Recreation Association, covering experiences gained through play activities.

### Keeping Recreation Appointments Free From Political Favoritism

HONORABLE E. T. BUCKINGHAM

*Mayor of Bridgeport, Connecticut*

At the beginning of the discussion the statement was made that this subject might be filled with dynamite or it might be very helpful—the natural assumption, therefore, being that it must be handled with care. It was also said that all politicians are not bad and that there are a few good ones in each city. (I know that the politicians will appreciate that kindly comment.)

Recreation departments are most effectively kept free from politics if the individuals making the appointments have a personal interest in the movement and a sincere desire to give reward for service.

Someone said that politicians were necessary and often accomplished much good. This might be termed score number two for the politicians! It was brought out that recreation could be maintained on a high scale notwithstanding the politicians, if parent-teachers associations, service clubs, chambers of commerce, community clubs and similar groups, would give it active support.

From the general discussion it did not appear to be the opinion that civil service was a panacea, but that recreation was at the top and that civil service is asleep.

The statement was made that boards of education have a greater civic vision than any other board and that boards of recreation would do well to copy from them. (Boards of education please take note!)

It was suggested that an ideal board of recreation might be appointed in the following way: One member from the Board of Education; the park superintendent to be the second member; the third member to be named by the Common Pleas Judges; the fourth member to be appointed

by the City Council; these four to name a fifth member from the citizens at large. The Board, as then constituted, should name a superintendent of recreation and the superintendent should then select those who would be employed in the recreation department. Give an opportunity to the sincere groups in a city to fight for this method of appointment.

It was also suggested that there be a graduated scale of increases in salaries of employees for at least four years.

It was well said that if a board of recreation gives the people what they want there will be no worry about politics playing any part. A recreation board should be actually interested in the work of recreation or a member should not accept an appointment on that board.

A number of comments were made during the discussion concerning our political system in general, including criticism of district chairmen, ward heelers, political leaders and even mayors. Some of these comments were both edifying and amusing and did not seem germane to the question.

At the conclusion of the interesting discussion, the Chairman of the meeting, Charles H. English, of Philadelphia, and I, went into a huddle and these are our conclusions:

The method of organization and appointment of boards of recreation and the naming of those in charge of recreation is a matter that is peculiar to each community and should have no place on a program of a national recreation congress.

It is not for us to attempt to criticize or dictate the methods of these appointments.

This Congress should only deal with problems of recreation and endeavor to present some of the concrete problems to these meetings and to look for suggestions and solutions of these problems.

It is results that count. Let us keep on getting results, selling the recreation idea, and forget about politics.

### Securing Adequate Appropriations for Recreation

RAYMOND E. HOYT

*Superintendent of Playgrounds and Recreation,  
Los Angeles, California*

This topic proved a most interesting and debatable one. The Chairman of the Session, Dr. William Burdick, of Baltimore, opened the discussion with a few comments on the word "adequate" as it appears in the topic. The thought was ex-

pressed that this word might indicate something to shoot at, but which for the present, however, is probably beyond the realms of our fondest hopes. Dr. Burdick suggested that we amend the title to read, *Securing Adequate Appropriations for Recreation within the Ability of the Community to Pay.*

The first discussion leader, Dennis H. Donahue, of Elmira, N. Y., analyzed the topic and he, too, questioned the word "adequate." He summarized his subject with these words: "Recreation cannot live without the support of the people. Therefore, the public must be educated in order to provide sufficient funds." Mr. Donahue told how ten years ago Community Service came into Elmira with a program and within two years the people were educated to the point where the City Council appropriated the sum of \$500.00 for community recreation, a sum which has steadily grown until today the Council appropriation is in excess of \$20,000. An interesting point brought out by this speaker was the fact that in preparing the city budget the Council cut every department's request with the exception of the Recreation Department, and it actually increased its budget over that requested.

At this point, a very interesting and heated discussion arose with many widely differences of opinion on the question of "should adults pay their own way?" On a final vote, the group signified its convictions by only five voting for adults to pay as they go, six voting they should not. Fifty-six by this time did not know how to vote!

In the discussions several interesting statements and opinions were offered. One delegate stated, "If parents get what they want they will see that the children will get what they want in play and recreation." This statement was made after a discussion of whether a recreation department was justified on spending funds for adults if the child was not adequately and completely taken care of.

The delegate from Reading, Pa., felt that all recreation should be as free as school education. It was the consensus of opinion that recreation is no longer a luxury, but is now definitely classed a public necessity.

The second leader, W. L. Quinlan, of Tampa, Florida, told the group of Tampa's successful administration based on an income derived from a millage tax. Tampa enjoys a five-tenths mill tax out of which is conducted a program for tourists, the most outstanding activity being the de-

lightful band concerts given in the city's band shell. Mr. Quinlan felt that the public should be well advised on what they were paying for and why. He felt his success in this in Tampa was due partly to the response he received from service clubs, women's clubs and fraternal organizations. Through his efforts each of these organizations has had appointed its own recreation committee which Mr. Quinlan keeps well posted and who, in turn, report continuously back to their organizations. The group felt this to be a very constructive suggestion.

Here a discussion on millage tax was injected into the meeting. After explanations from several communities, a vote was taken which resulted in twelve being in favor of such a tax, two opposed and the remainder undecided.

The third leader, James A. Garrison, of Austin, Texas, told of the city's operation of recreation under the Home Rule Bill of Texas. He felt it was quite necessary to educate the City Council on the subject of recreation in order to secure the appropriation of sufficient funds. The degree of success attained is evidenced by the fact that the recreation budget was tripled this past year, while many other departments were cut. Mr. Garrison told of the interesting way in which a service club of Austin provided a public golf course by selling bonds for the purchase and improvement of the plot and then leasing the course to the city until the course will pay for itself. Last year they were able to retire 6% of the bonds.

In summing up the discussions, the conclusions arrived at were as follows:

1. It was undecided as to whether adults should pay their own way.
2. It was felt that the millage tax is gaining in popularity.
3. The public should be educated.
4. Outsiders should not bring pressure on the City Council but they may express to the City Council their desires.
5. Capital expenditure should not be included in the general budget but should be special appropriations.

#### What Can a County Park System or a County Recreation System Do to Meet County Recreation Needs?

F. S. MATHEWSON

Superintendent of Recreation Union County,  
New Jersey, Park Commission

Because we were all so anxious to learn what we could from one another, there were very few

contrary opinions, and it was a most interesting meeting as each of us had something to give the others. The meeting adjourned to a luncheon discussion and then went into a full afternoon session. You can appreciate from this the keen interest of the group.

With a few notable exceptions, the county park system is primarily a development of the last decade. The number of counties that have established park commissions or have acquired park properties has grown from 33 in 1926 to 66 in 1929.

The three speakers, each representing a different type of development and from three different sections of the country—east coast, middle west and far west—agreed, on one important point, that recreation leadership is most important, and an activities program most essential.

In Los Angeles County, where they have acquired several thousand acres of land and developed three different types of parks, they have adopted the policy of first setting aside the recreational features and then building the rest of the parks around them. This is a big step forward in recreation, so far as park development is concerned. Much to our surprise we found that a big winter program is conducted in Los Angeles County. It was stated that the longest ski jump in the country is now being built there.

Camping was mentioned as a feature that can be conducted on a large scale in most county park systems.

It was evident from the discussion that the county system can serve as a coordinating agency for the various groups and organizations in the county in the development of music, drama, and similar activities, and it was shown how the rural communities were being benefited by such organization work.

The county park systems all over the country seem to have a big responsibility in the securing of lands on the outskirts of the cities. Population is moving to the suburban communities and unless the counties acquire adequate playground and park areas there is great danger of a poorly planned development.

There seems to be an effort all over the country to put the county and state fair grounds to a greater use. In many cases these tracts of land and buildings, representing an investment of several hundreds of thousands of dollars are used but one or two weeks in the year, notable excep-

tions, however, being at Memphis, Dallas, Shreveport, and Chattanooga.

The new community building in Westchester, N. Y., was described. It has a Little Theatre seating 350 and an auditorium seating 5,000. It is said to have the best equipped stage of any building in the East. Some of the activities there are social dancing, drama tournaments, musical festivals, and county workshop, etc. The building has helped to develop a county consciousness.

It seems to be within the province of the county park system to provide the facilities which because of the capital cost would be prohibitive for citizens of the small communities, as, for instance; golf courses, swimming pools, lawn bowling greens, riding stables, rifle ranges, camps and picnic centers.

One of the most significant things that came out of the afternoon session was the announcement of the appointment of a committee by the Governor of California to make an investigation of the delinquency of that State. After a long and comprehensive investigation, this Committee made a recommendation to the Governor that a director of recreation for the State be appointed in order that he might co-ordinate the various agencies within the State to meet delinquency problems.

L. H. Weir stated that in the next decade county park work would result in the most outstanding developments in the whole history of the recreation movement. It offers opportunities for the most important of avocations in our country today, that of our natural sciences.

One of the speakers stated that by providing picnic areas where the families and groups might go for the full day or an afternoon, surrounded by those things which should be our common heritage, the county park system is supplying a great recreational need in the lives of our city dwellers in this modern age. This single phase of our park program is unlimited in its scope, and its increasingly important place can be ascertained by the fact that in one county where in 1927 they had a recorded picnic attendance of only 14,000, this past year the recorded attendance was close to 150,000.

As the county areas develop, then the county park system must conduct more and more a municipal recreation program. In all Metropolitan areas the county of today is the city of tomorrow, and county park commissions must select and acquire with careful thought and planning adequate recreation areas within their boundaries.

### City Planning Questions for Recreation Workers

SAMUEL PRICE WETHERILL

President, *Regional Planning Federation, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania*

The impression I personally get out of this whole conference is that it is very largely a city and regional planning conference, and that every recreation worker is city and regional planning minded.

At our meeting three main facts were emphasized. The outstanding fact which developed in the meeting was that comprehensive planning for recreation spaces and facilities overlaps so many other community problems that it is only through regional and city planning that they can be adequately studied and set forth. The second point was that official co-operation by the governing bodies is not automatic. Something has to be done to stimulate it. The third point was that organized citizens' support is necessary and that that can be accomplished only through extra-governmental agencies.

I have heard confirmation of those same subjects this morning from the speakers who have just preceded me, and I heard it yesterday in the summaries then—that we have to get our people behind our programs in order to make our governmental authorities realize that action is necessary, and we must have the precise technical knowledge of the expert more or less organized and supported through citizen agencies so that this knowledge can be crystallized and presented to the attention of the authorities.

From this interesting and expert, though highly practical discussion, it is evident that if what the expert recreationalists know about the need of properly located recreation areas, inside and outside of city boundaries, were only known and understood by governing bodies, then we could look for very rapid progress. Unfortunately, this need is not so understood by most governmental agencies. The recent action of New York City in appropriating some thirty million dollars for parks and playgrounds is a happy exception. It is generally conceded, however, that city and regional planning agencies are best equipped to understand these needs, and the question is raised as to what recreationalists can do to make sure that such plans include full provision for play space, recreational beauty spots and more aesthetic environment for all. The population shifts and the changing conditions in metropolitan areas, and a

number of more recently observed phenomena which are affecting the life of the many, give urgency and immediacy to the problem, and the best hope of progress apparently lies in the direction of co-operation with regional and city planning and zoning agencies to see to it that all of their studies reflect the experience of the expert recreationalist. Recreationalists and planners must co-operate not only in making good plans but in getting them adopted.

One of our speakers said the problem is only ten per cent. knowing what to do, and ninety per cent. in getting it done. It is a ninety per cent. salesmanship problem. The "follow-up agitator," as Mrs. Porter, of Buffalo, was affectionately dubbed, must keep on the job, and such a person must be kept in every community on the job by extra-governmental agencies, the government itself not being able to do that.

The suggestion was offered of broadcasting speeches and slides and news that would do more in two years than can be done in twenty without them.

So, in conclusion, as one speaker said, we must put our skates on and travel. We must convince the public that scientific looking ahead pays. Someone yesterday, in a slip of the tongue, used the term, "co-organize." It is a fine word. We must co-organize to this end.

### Questions Which Recreation Workers Should Face With Reference to the Reduction of Delinquency

HARRY N. SHULMAN

Director of Research, *Sub-Commission on Causes, Crime Commission of the State of New York*

The session was well attended and interesting and strongly maintained differences in points of view were brought out. There had been proposed in the Congress bulletins for this session a series of twelve critical questions. Of these, the first, "Have Recreation Workers a Special Responsibility for the Reduction of Delinquency?" was most keenly debated.

Preliminary to the main question, the definition of delinquency was briefly discussed, and the consensus of agreement seemed that instead of the narrow legalistic definition which conceives of the delinquent to be an apprehended child law violator, there should be applied a wider, more social definition, to include unapprehended violators and personality problems. Those denying the responsibility of recreation workers for delinquency re-

duction were placed on the defensive by the acceptance of this wider definition of delinquency, as the bulk of their objections centered on the mingling of paroled institution cases with normal children, and did not especially oppose contacts with probationers and school behavior problems. The theoretical point made by this group was that recreation should prevent and not seek to cure delinquent behavior. In general, there was indicated a large degree of reluctance on the part of recreation agencies to undertake work with delinquents.

Those affirming the responsibility of recreation workers in this regard stressed, first, the value of recreation in the treatment of delinquency. The intrinsic value of recreation, said one speaker, makes it especially valuable in the treatment of delinquency. Recreation, he characterized as a method of voluntary human energy expenditure causing more pleasure and satisfaction than the routine course of life permits. Delinquents were often individuals who had never learned how to play in a socially acceptable way.

The necessity of sound recreation for delinquents is seen in the fact that studies of delinquents and prisoners show the absence of normal recreational outlets among these persons while they were at liberty. A wholesome recreational system supplies ways and means of releasing these pent-up energies.

A second important point was that the recreation movement can serve to break down community prejudice, often of an unreasoning nature, against individual delinquents by demonstrating through group play the good qualities of these children. In this manner the subtle forces which tend to segregate delinquent children into a well-defined, anti-social group, might be combated.

A third major point proclaimed by several was that the forces of good were stronger than the forces of evil and the norms set up by the larger normal group must triumph over the values set up by the delinquents.

The use of recreation workers as probation and parole officers was strongly discountenanced by many, the plea being that the recreation worker should not be forced to jeopardize his friendship with his group through being forced to accept responsibilities involving at times a punitive relationship to certain of his group. Strong co-operation with specialized delinquency workers was urged.

Strong opposition, as well as strong support, was voiced on the question of the use of case work methods by recreation workers. The views presented ranged from strict adherence to recreation approaches to a demand for pedagogical and case work training as a background for recreational training. The individual nature of the problems of the delinquent was stressed as an argument favoring the increased use of case work. A compromise suggestion was that especially assigned recreation workers undertake a more individual approach with these children than could the rank and file of group workers.

The question as to the nature of the recreation service best adapted to areas having a strong degree of delinquency brought out but a meagre response. There was apparent agreement on the need of program adaptation, but apparently very little concrete work of this nature had as yet been undertaken. Boxing and other thrilling sports, and the use of singing as a means of emotional release, were advocated. Team play was said by one leader to have been found more effective in teaching social cooperativeness than individual competition in games among a group of children with poor home training.

A plea was made for the elimination of ordering and forbidding in recreation programs as a step toward the shift from mass to individual participation. The democratization of recreation, it was suggested, would incidentally help the problem child who is today being ejected from the playground because he is interfering with an orderly process.

The cooperation of recreation workers in carrying out experimental plans for treatment in close accord with social workers and clinics, was urged as a step in the process of learning worthwhile techniques in delinquency prevention.

In conclusion, your summarizer has the following five points to present:

1. The discussion of delinquency prevention should bring together all types of recreation workers, those in public and private building programs as well as those utilizing outdoor programs.

2. This cooperation is necessary because the community treatment of delinquency is necessarily a neighborhood treatment. Every city and town has its breeding places of delinquency in which special recreation programs are necessary.

3. The plea that recreation is doing a delinquency prevention job is often but a cloak for unwillingness or indifference to the irksome task

of dealing with the delinquent child. Recreation is side-stepping its responsibilities unless it is willing to admit delinquents side by side with non-delinquents.

4. The financial value of a delinquency prevention program is great, but it should be backed up by a genuine desire to do a job with the delinquent himself, as well as with the pre-delinquent.

5. The recreation worker need have no inferiority complex over the specialized training and technical vocabularies of other workers in the field of delinquency. His special and important contribution will come not through using the techniques of other professions, but through adapting his own techniques to the treatment of delinquency. No other profession provides a group life for the delinquent. This the recreation worker can provide by experimenting with his techniques. He should not remain aloof from other professional groups, however, but should pool his knowledge with theirs in the treatment of the individual case.

#### Relative Importance of Recreation in Comparison With Sewers, Paving, Water Systems, School Buildings

LOUIS BROWNLOW

*City Manager, Radburn, New Jersey*

The first of the speakers asserted—and all of the others agreed—that recreation was equally important with any of the services enumerated. And along with that assertion of its equal importance it was both expressed and implied that perhaps all people did not yet agree that recreation was equally important with those other things.

Harold S. Buttenheim, Editor of the *American City Magazine*, New York City, pointed out that the community was like a home and that you could repair the furnace or get in the plumber, even put a new roof on the house, without necessarily taking Mary out of dancing school or bringing Tom home from college. Another speaker pointed out that it was impossible to determine the relative importance of these things by the amount of money they cost. And he gave an illustration—looking at me. He suspected me of owning an automobile. And he knew that I wore glasses. And he assumed that my automobile cost more than my glasses, and he said, "Which is more important?"

The point stressed by one of the speakers was that the people interested in the recreation activities of a community should put first in their program long term planning. With that he went over much of the ground that has been reported here from other conferences. But it was evident that he had in mind provision of space and capital expenditures, and he warned those people who did undertake long term planning to begin modestly and to carry with each step of an increased program public opinion.

The next speaker attacked the problem of these relative values of recreation in comparison with sewers, water systems, schools and other functions not from the point of view of capital expenditures, but rather the annual operating cost. And he had trouble with budgets. He pointed out that it was necessary to carry along public opinion expressed through extra-governmental agencies in order to support the demand or the request presented by the recreation departments for the necessary funds for ordinary annual maintenance and operation. Then we found that those people in the group who were thinking of long term planning and capital expenditures, and those who were thinking of every day maintenance, all came back to the point that they had to carry public opinion with them.

The point was raised as to how to approach that, because it was implicit in the group that these appeals from the functional organizations of community government must be in the nature of things that appeal to the intellectual process which does not always control public action.

Then how to engage the great emotional and spiritual forces of the community? It was suggested that once in a while we look not to the functional activities of the organized community, but that we look to the ultimate objectives of the entire community. Those were grouped in order of importance, thus—health; education; economic provisions for the prosperity of the community; cultivation of the higher things of life.

When health was stressed as most important, many of the group thought of the Health Department, but others thought of the sewers, the water, the cleaning of the streets, and of the parks and playgrounds, as a part of the first, the prime, the most important objective of any community, which is the greatest possible measure of bodily, mental and spiritual health for every individual comprising it.

## Is the Existing Legislation for Recreation Adequate to Permit Communities to Do What They Desire?

LEE F. HANMER

Director, Department of Recreation, Russell Sage Foundation

The topic on which our group "went to the mat" yesterday was "Is the Existing Legislation for Recreation Adequate to Permit Communities to Do What They Desire?" And the conclusion was that it is not. Therefore, assistance from the few virtuous and public spirited politicians is solicited in getting the kind of legislation that we do need. And we would also welcome the assistance of all of the other politicians if they are inclined to support our views.

It was pointed out, rather graphically, that legislation is the neck of the bottle through which public funds for recreation must pass. In that connection we were reminded that public officials are usually cautious about making expenditures of public funds unless those expenditures are specifically authorized. Therefore, if the legislation is a little hazy they are quite likely to sit back and not take action. Legislation, accordingly, is the neck of the bottle through which all our expenditures for public recreation must pass. It doesn't apply to public recreation any more than to anything else, I suppose. Public officials are coming along, however, in these matters, as was pointed out by our discussion leaders, and the situation is not as bad as our brief conclusion would seem to indicate.

L. R. Barrett, of Newark, discussed very hopefully the prospects as he saw them. Professor Jay B. Nash of New York University had a good many desires yet to be fulfilled with reference to provision that could be properly made in the school laws for the functioning of Boards of Education in providing a whole wide range of recreational and cultural activities in school properties on school grounds. Arthur Williams, of the National Recreation Association, who has studied this matter carefully, was the "checker-up" on all of our wild statements and brought us back to earth every once in a while with the facts as he had them at his command and which are available to you through application to the Association.

Most legislation at the present time is permissive, and probably that is good. In a few instances, it was pointed out, there are laws that make it possible for the expressed desire of the voters of a community to compel the city offi-

cials to do certain things that they have not been inclined to do.

Thirty States—and that is pretty good—out of the whole group, already have enabling acts under which communities may acquire space for recreation, playgrounds, parks and similar facilities, undertake the development and rebuilding of the older areas, the slum sections, and make provision for excess condemnation that permits of taking a larger area than you need for the specific improvement and by that improvement enhance the value of the surrounding property, resell that not used and in some instances practically cover the expense of the whole undertaking, much to the benefit of the community and the city at large.

The authorization of funds for the development and equipment of such grounds is very miscellaneous and varied. Local ordinances are at wide variance in these matters and need considerable fixing up. The fact was referred to that New York City had just authorized the expenditure of \$30,000,000 for acquiring new areas for parks and playgrounds. I anticipate that New York City is due to go through some very severe growing pains in providing for the development and maintenance of those areas.

Legislation that has been attempted to require real estate developers to dedicate portions of their holdings for public purposes has quite uniformly been declared unconstitutional. But the enabling acts that the states are passing now are making it possible for local city planning bodies to offer inducements to real estate developers to set aside areas that may be acquired at reasonable prices—and in many instances they are dedicated.

It was pointed out by one speaker that the present income tax laws are serving to slow up to quite a considerable extent the donations of lands for public purposes; that is, if they exceed a certain percentage of the individual's income, that cannot be written off against his income tax. Suggestions were made for improving that situation so that generous people might not be hampered in their desire to do things for the community.

The authorized use of school property and funds for recreation and culture is not quite general, but its use is frequently limited by the time of the year and the days of the week when school is in session. Strangely enough, it often prescribes that these things may be carried on during school time, thus leaving those grounds and buildings closed up at just the time when people can best use them. We all know of the instances of the closed school grounds after school hours,

and the children forced out on the streets to play.

City and regional planning is helping to bring about legislation that will facilitate the setting aside of areas for play and recreation, and local ordinances should follow to promote their use.

Great progress is being made in some cities extending the use of school property. A pamphlet entitled, *School Playgrounds*, published by the Department of the Interior, gives a digest of all state laws on this subject.

We are experiencing four stages of progress in community use of school property:

1. Bond required
2. Complicated plan of letting
3. Simplified letting
4. Promotion and organization of use.

It was prophesied that the day would come when at least playgrounds for children would be required by law as a means of training and safety.

The conference seemed to be in agreement that there probably is no one best plan of recreation administration to be legally provided, but that the effort should be to promote such legislation as would make it possible for each community to work out its own plan on the basis of local conditions.

Zoning—that legal plan of giving stability to land uses—has been mentioned as one of the important legal aids to recreation planning and development.

### Industrial Recreation

W. H. KILBY

*Director of Recreation, Canada National Recreation League*

Due to the fact that delegates primarily interested in industrial recreation are few in number at this Congress, the attendance at our section was small, but after discussion it was decided to submit the following recommendations:

1. The mechanization and economic situation of industry have secured for the worker a greater amount of leisure.
2. Employers of a large number of workers have already developed welfare and recreational programs under their own auspices. This development may be regarded at present as an industrial recreation group.
3. It transpired that corporations are generally favorable to this development and desire to co-operate with such communities as wish to develop a comprehensive program.
4. The consensus of opinion was that the en-

couragement of play within the corporations was most desirable at this time. It was considered that while athletic competition was advisable, in many cases, for the general support of national sport, it did not secure activities for the greater number of work people. At the same time, due to the liberal interpretation of regulations, industrials sometimes found themselves in disagreement with national governing bodies of sport.

5. It was considered desirable to follow the amateur code and encourage play for the development of character as much as for the physical development of well being.

6. All delegates were unanimous in appreciation of the work of the National Recreation Association. They appreciated its sincere co-operation, were desirous of closely allying themselves to the Association, but recommended that the National Recreation Association perform a splendid service by extending to industries an invitation to be represented at the next congress. In order to secure this representation, it is recommended that a special committee be appointed to ascertain the names of industries engaged in recreational welfare work and thus secure for the National Recreation Association as full a mailing list as possible.

### What I Would Like to Do in My Community If I Had a Free Hand and Unlimited Funds

W. DUNCAN RUSSELL

*General Director, Community Service of Boston, Inc.*

We all went to sleep in this session, not because, as you might first believe, our Chairman or discussion leaders were not on their job, but, quite to the contrary, because they knew that if we were ever to place ourselves in the ideal situations which this question assumes, they would have to make us dream. And dream they made us!

But before I tell what we dreamed, let me say that we all agreed that such a situation—"a free hand and unlimited funds"—would not be good for any of us; that there were things that money couldn't buy, such as good will, the secret of just what the recreation needs were of the people we were serving. And, of course, we couldn't tolerate buying legislation. As Mr. Lantz, of Reading, said, he hoped to be dead and gone by the time such a situation was reached—for who wants to live in a world where everything is accomplished easily?

Here are some of the things we dreamed:

First, in relation to our recreation staffs—that

we had on our staffs local leadership trained by the best authorities in the country on the various subjects related to a playground and recreation program; that we could pay them such attractive salaries that other fields would not tempt them and that they could forget their economic status and have time to re-create themselves. That our leaders had the foresight not only to develop a physical activity program, but possessed the power to release the soul of man to the beauty and culture which programs including music, drama and handicraft could do; that these same leaders did not put the emphasis on skills and techniques, but were wise enough to respect personalities, were emotionally stable and had good common sense.

We dreamed we had local training schools in our communities for the education of such leaders; that these schools were not only manned with the best authorities on play and recreation and allied fields, but that they included a department for special study and research in order that the objectives of recreation could be constantly re-valued and our methods and techniques kept in step with the changing times. Another department included the technique of promotion and interpretation to the public.

Mrs. Valentine, of Philadelphia, dreamed that her school had procured Doctor Finley as President, that they had been able to give him four times the salary the *New York Times* gave him—and that he had accepted, not because of the salary but because he wanted to!

In the second place, we dreamed about ideal facilities—a community house in every community which took care of *all* the people of the community and discriminated against none. We dreamed that we did not have to squeeze our indoor recreation programs in what was left over from the school curriculum, but that our buildings were open all of the time and had facilities to take care of every possible recreation activity necessary for the demands of the people we were serving.

Our school people in this session dreamed a little differently from the recreation people, in this sense, and saw the schools more closely connected with recreation than ever, with buildings erected to serve the community adequately from a recreation point of view as well as educational. As a matter of fact, our Chairman, Dr. B. F. Ashe, President of the University of Miami, dreamed that education had reached the state where you couldn't tell where play began and education

ended in the school curriculum. He was convinced, he told us after he woke up, that the present school systems do not provide sufficient variety and activity to accomplish maximum results, that by the alternation of work and play in school schedules the mental output could be increased at least one hundred per cent., and in addition a new attitude created on the part of the children. He believed that one of the major efforts of public school officials and recreation workers should be to bring about as rapidly as possible such combinations of play and school routine as would bring maximum happiness to the children.

But our dreams went further than this of having adequate indoor centers. Mr. Lantz, of Reading, painted a veritable Utopia of outside recreation facilities. His dream included play centers for everybody from the cradle to old age, havens of recreation just outside of the cities which combined maximum beauty with opportunity to re-create as you desired, so that the strain on those who live in hot, dusty, unsightly, odious cities would be reduced to the minimum. For instance, camps on the mountainsides where tired mothers could take their large, undernourished families and after several weeks of recuperation return to the city rested physically and mentally, with their children fat, healthy and happy. Mrs. H. L. Baker, of Mount Vernon, N. Y., told us that that dream has been realized in Westchester County, in camps for boys and girls, single log cabins for family camps, where a family instead of trying to enjoy itself at a crowded seaside resort, would rest and recreate in the solitude of the forests, much better equipped to "carry on" upon their return to the city.

Within the cities, Mr. Lantz's dream showed him small children's corners equipped to the maximum with slides, swings, sand boxes and wading pools, a shady nook for storytelling, folk dancing, drama and other arts. On his larger playgrounds, he envisioned pools of the most sanitary kind, a field house containing a branch library, well equipped with gymnasiums for both sexes, a Little Theatre and workshop, a music room, a fine arts room. Soccer, football, baseball fields and tennis courts, and running tracks were numerous. Entire playground areas would be magnificently fenced with either shrubbery or some other material to protect the lives of those who play upon those centers. Ornamental fountains and drinking fountains would be a sight for tired eyes and a boon to the thirsty.

In the suburban districts Mr. Lantz found

large parks with winding pathways for those who like to meditate, bridle paths for horseback riders, nature trails for lovers of the out-of-doors and much virgin country untouched by the hand of the landscape architect. I wish I could give you all of this well described picture Mr. Lantz painted which included picnic areas, babbling brooks, unsurpassed golf courses with fairways lined with evergreen trees, archery ranges, natural lakes, beaches lined with weeping willows and beautiful and attractive bath houses.

In the last place, we did dream about publicity as the National Recreation Association asked us to in its book of questions, and in this state of idealism no longer would we have to conduct activities just suited to gain the publicity we felt we needed; that publicity would come in its own course, properly interpreting our program to the public and gaining for us its heartiest approval of our programs. Stories would be written, we dreamed, not by the ordinary newspaper reporter, but by trained recreation workers whose ability to write had drawn them into journalism without losing the background which recreation had given them.

In conclusion, let me say again that everyone agreed unlimited funds and a free hand would be bad for any of us, that we are strong in this field by virtue of the obstacles which it is necessary for us to overcome in order to accomplish our purpose, that unlimited funds might find us developing our program far ahead of the needs of our people and we might find ourselves in the very state of overproduction which is adding so many new problems to our present industrial and business life.

#### Increasing the Number of Trained Able Recreation Workers

DR. J. H. McCURDY

*International Y. M. C. A. College, Springfield, Massachusetts*

George Hjelte, the Chairman, in opening the session, pointed out to us that there were reports in from 280 cities, showing 2,678 workers all year round, and some 18,000 additional workers during the summer season. He gave that as the background for the discussion of the problem of able workers in the field.

Doctor John Brown, of the International Committee, Y. M. C. A., emphasized, first, that the recreation program will stand or fall on the efficiency of professional leadership; that is, the workers must be professionally and efficiently

trained. Second, he stressed the great need for competent executive leadership. Then he discussed how we might secure or increase the training:

1. By retaining those of marked ability, making conditions satisfactory to them so that they could remain in the work.

2. By getting rid of the unfit—those who are retarding progress and who are poor examples to the younger people coming on. Attempt to eliminate those who are really leading to a loss in community leadership.

3. By recruiting those with potential leadership in this field. Cultural, professional and character elements were emphasized.

4. By giving training on the job.

5. By the development of the science of friendly counsel—really case studies of the executives—with the idea of helping those people in the field to make the most of themselves and their jobs.

Ernst Hermann, of Newton, Massachusetts, emphasized the necessity for the securing of capable individuals and pointed out that in the past developments have been haphazard in the selection of leaders. Although the war brought into the field many amateurs unfit for the work, their enthusiasm was valuable. And somehow we must find a way of retaining the enthusiasm of the amateur. Mr. Hermann further pointed out the necessity for avoiding compulsion and the need for more culture on the part of leaders. Very often, he said, people without technical skill are professionally very successful. Among the best methods for bringing about growth in leaders Mr. Hermann emphasized first of all the attendance at such meetings as the Recreation Congress where workers may learn of the programs of other individuals and groups and improve their work by that knowledge. He pointed out the importance of developing leadership on the part of boys and girls and the securing of the best boy and girl leaders and training them as future professional workers. A very large proportion of his workers at the play centers were playground boys and girls.

Mr. Hermann urged that recreation workers reread *The Normal Course in Play*, prepared by Professor Hetherington and published by the National Recreation Association, which he feels to contain the philosophy of the movement.

John H. Chase, of Youngstown, Ohio, gave illustrations of individuals whom he had known who had come into the recreation field with apparently all the earmarks of success. They had

ideal character and ideal physique, and a good deal of technical skill. Nevertheless they failed to make good because of lack of managerial ability. He mentioned the case of one young man, apparently ideally equipped, who went into a play center and immediately afterward the attendance dropped from 200 to 100, where it remained. This man lacked the quality of gang leadership, that quality which industrial concerns are seeking in their salesmen. Mr. Chase spoke of the book, *Exploring Your Mind*, by Albert Edward Wig-gam, containing principles and tests which he felt can helpfully be applied in selecting workers.

James S. Stevens, of Springfield, Massachusetts, spoke of the danger in a too submissive attitude on the part of recreation workers—a willingness to accept things as they are without trying to overcome obstacles. Recreation workers ought to see the community needs and ought to have the courage to go out to meet them. Leaders must never stop growing, and they must refrain from becoming so absorbed in details of their work that they cannot keep up their reading or familiarize themselves with the work of related organizations.

To summarize the discussion in a word, the speakers emphasized the need of a broad philosophy of recreation and the need of having up-to-date methods of personnel selection.

#### Education of Public Opinion As to the Value of Recreation

F. E. WADSWORTH

Superintendent, Los Angeles County, California Department of Recreation Camps and Playgrounds

Harold S. Buttenheim, editor of *The American City*, who served as chairman, suggested that we assume the value of recreation and confine the discussion to attempts to solve the problem of public education as to the value of public recreation.

Mary Brady of the Harmon Foundation pointed out that the two essential factors in the project of public education in community work are: (1) Training executives in the means of educating public opinion, and (2) advance planning.

On the subject of the training of executives, Miss Brady made four points:

1. A nose for news can be developed.
2. The four newspaper "w's" which should be included in every article are "What, Why, When and Where."
3. Headlines are most effective when expressing action.

4. The newspaper policy of including the complete story in the first paragraph and developing it in detail in each succeeding paragraph might well be followed.

Advance planning would facilitate getting the news in in time to secure the required space and would help the executives to obtain a perspective of the whole project so that all phases of it would be properly handled and every possible medium of publicity would be used. Miss Brady compared a pattern of publicity to a dress pattern, saying that a few accomplished dress designers might cut a dress without a pattern, but that amateur results achieved without a pattern would be comparable to the work of a recreation executive projecting publicity without a pattern.

Frank P. Beal, director of Community Councils in New York, stressed the difficulties involved in educating public opinion and emphasized the fact that if the public does not accept the first efforts, the program should above all be completed or else the early efforts will be wasted. He quoted as an example of the completed program the public education project in New York City which obtained 431 playgrounds in four years.

Results might be obtained, it was suggested, by putting city officials on committees, by fully developing and completing one demonstration project, by using periodicals to state specific benefits and by making tours with groups of influential citizens to survey the problems.

Willard Hayes, of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, brought up the question of finding terminology for recreation other than the words "play" and "leisure time activities." He then indicated that the first essential of success is a good program effectively administered and mentioned the use of a Service Bureau as a very effective means of making contacts with large groups.

In the general discussion a strong feeling was expressed that cultural values make little impression on city councils. Two alternatives were suggested—a comparison with other communities, and the element of safety for children. These, it was felt, would make a strong appeal.

In conclusion, the following specifications, suggestions and recommendations were made:

1. That in a comprehensive program of educating public opinion, all of the agencies—newspapers, radio, churches, speeches, schools and colleges—should be used.
2. That churches are an effective medium often overlooked.
3. That additional mediums to be used include

playground bulletins, motion pictures and posters.

4. That if newspaper stories are written in a dramatic form and with a human interest, they are more likely to secure space in the newspaper and they are apt to have more influence in creating favorable public opinion.

5. That the education of public opinion should be as definitely planned as the program of activities.

6. That tours of inspection are a very effective means of public education.

7. That it is important sufficient care be taken to obtain the attendance of leading citizens at demonstrations and exhibits.

8. That while a perfectly good case for recreation could be made on the basis of its own contribution to life, it is important for effective and early results that the tangible values to health, safety, prevention of crime and the economic values to the district be stressed.

### What Are the Effective Methods for Securing Cooperation Between City Departments Controlling Facilities or Conducting Recreation Activities?

EVA WHITING WHITE

*President, Woman's Educational and Industrial Union  
Boston, Massachusetts*

The topic was handled from two points of view:

1. Methods used when cooperation is to be brought about between public and private agencies.

2. Methods used to obtain teamplay between different public departments.

In regard to both, certain fundamental principles of action were strongly emphasized, namely, it was said to be essential to know the organization of the city government under which one is working, the plan upon which it is based and the personnel heading its departments.

Cities have different types of charters. Officials in certain communities have powers which like officials in other communities cannot exercise. Do not storm a public official for permits which he cannot grant.

In attempting to extend the powers and obligations of a department, work with the executive. A public official of and by himself must accept the legal limitations which are placed upon his action by law. Public officials, though often conservative, are sensitive to the desires of the citizens, so when a community becomes expressive

it usually gets what it wants, but action must come through the proper channels on appeal to the properly constituted body where the authority rests. It is important to understand the complicated machinery that has come to exist in the operation of public departments, particularly in large cities. Desirable cooperation is often inhibited for the time being, at least, by the fact that rules of procedure which clearly define action and responsibility have of necessity come to exist and cannot be set aside in a moment.

It was pointed out that the three greatest factors in cooperation are—patience, understanding and vision; and that of the three patience is, perhaps, the most important—the patience carefully to study the relation of a given activity to be proposed, not to one department alone, but to all concerned; the patience to make one move at a time; and the patience to wait months, years, even, fully determined, however, not to be blocked in the ultimate accomplishment of an objective.

As to understanding, there should be absolute conviction that a given line of cooperation is desirable on the part of all parties concerned and that understanding should be registered on paper. Verbal agreements are satisfactory as temporary measures, but written agreements are essential not only by way of forestalling difficulties but also by way of building for the future on a firm foundation.

In regard to vision, plans should be made on the basis of five, ten or fifteen years ahead. Frequently, if the goal is sensed, immediate difficulties come into the perspective of progressive ends to be obtained.

It was pointed out that cooperation comes down to thinking outside of ourselves, not of thinking about who is to get the credit. No one person can claim all knowledge or supreme ability. Compromise is often necessary and becomes a matter of wise statesmanship. Try every means before demanding cooperation through a higher authority. Sometimes, however, it is necessary to get action by direct appeal to the highest governing authority, in which case, if the desired end is attained, sharing the glory.

Officials will often speak of "my department" and "my facilities" and limit the use of their departments, curiously forgetting the public. They will speak of "serving the people" without seeming to realize that they serve the same people who demand an interrelated service. The point was made that this is but department pride and can be used as an asset.

In the case of cooperation between private and public agencies a speaker said, "Don't stagger a superintendent of schools by asking for all his resources at once. Ask for a single thing." Exchange favors wherever possible. Establish good will. Better mutual agreement than the force of ordinances. Law is apt to mean minimums. There is no limit to what can be done with cooperation.

A county worker said that he had successfully staged a County Fair. He suggested the idea and asked the various groups in the county to participate. It was a success and was on a larger scale than his budget would have permitted, while the program of events showed greater variety than would have been the case had a single mind planned them. Private agencies should give of their resources to public departments and public departments should call upon private agencies.

There was discussion as to the coordination of the programs of public departments by organizing committees or commissions made up of one or more representatives of, possibly, the School Board, Park Department, Recreation Commission. One speaker preferred an entirely neutral group of citizens who should confer with the executives of public departments and whose strength came from organized public opinion such as that of the Parent-Teachers Associations.

The practical mechanics of cooperation were brought out by the suggestion that if property is to be used by two departments, a survey be made of the condition of the property, that this survey be in duplicate or triplicate, as the case may be, and a copy sent to each department head entering into the agreement of cooperation. Then if a window is found to be broken, the party using the property will not be said to be at fault.

The janitor! No discussion on cooperation between departments, if buildings are in question, is ever complete without a consideration of the janitor. Therefore, we discussed the janitor.

It was suggested that janitors should be paid for extra services required and should be considered members of the staff. One executive told of planning certain staff meetings to which the janitors might be invited. This aided materially in creating good feeling.

Another suggestion was to the effect that when one department uses the facilities of another, said department should see that its work is in charge of carefully selected leaders who understand their obligation to the cooperating department.

Los Angeles was said to have such an admirable

working plan between departments, backed by so strong a public support that no official would any more think of cramping the recreation program than of changing the color of the sky.

Paterson, New Jersey, was applauded, when the announcement was made that the \$35,000 just appropriated for the first unit of a stadium stood for team play between all the city officials.

Finally—the work of recreation systems, schools, art and nature museums, public libraries, of public and private agencies, is coming to be more and more closely tied together. Their programs have vitality. They are all working for the same purpose—the enrichment of leisure.

### Rating of Cities in Recreation

C. E. BREWER

*Commissioner of Recreation, Detroit, Michigan*

It soon developed in our meeting that many searching questions are being fired at the newest of professions, that of recreation, and because of this questioning and the research work being done in connection with the White House Conference, the necessity was felt for establishing, if possible, some way in which the efficiency of the recreation movement in the various cities could be rated, as are other professional groups, such as state health departments, schools, colleges and hospitals.

R. W. Robertson, of Oakland, California, suggested that the basis for rating be on physical facilities, that is, on the number of acres of open space per hundred population or the number of playgrounds per square mile. Other suggested bases for rating were on personnel, program of activities, administration and financial support.

It was pointed out that the advantages of such a rating system lay in giving an ideal toward which the different departments could work, and in providing the various municipal recreation departments an opportunity to check on themselves. Further, it should stimulate the interest in the work on the part of the workers and on the part of board members in other cities who would want to raise their city to the standard which had been established.

The difficulties in such a plan are those naturally arising from an effort to establish the numerical values on which to rate various factors. It was pointed out that it might be embarrassing for some of the recreation executives to explain to their boards why their cities were so low in the rating plan!

It was felt, as a further possible difficulty, that

after the ideal had been reached, there might be too great self-satisfaction and less interest in going beyond the standard once it had been attained.

From this point we went into the question of values. Most of the executives discussed at length what values would be given if, for example, 500 people were watching a ball game or if they were participating in a Hallowe'en party or in a concert. Which is of the most value to the recreation program? One person raised the question as to whether the recreation of a piccolo player in an orchestra was of more value than that of the 10,000 people in the audience.

It was pointed out that in some cities there are as many as 18, 19 or 20 various recreation bodies, and while some of them may be very effective, some may not be. This fact would no doubt tend to react against the city's rating.

Someone suggested that participation be used as a basis on the theory that if you have a large number of people participating in a program, you would probably have the facilities, you would probably have the leadership, and you would probably have the municipal financial support.

It was felt, on the whole, by the recreation executives, that although a rating system would probably have many flaws in the beginning, it was advisable to try to work out some rating plan if it is at all possible. Improvements would undoubtedly be made in any system which might be established because many of the recreation executives, if their ratings were low, would find fault and pick flaws. It was therefore decided that there should be an ideal—a Utopia toward which all cities should work—a standard which presumably would take into consideration the physical facilities, the number of baseball diamonds, tennis courts and other facilities. From this standard a separate system might be worked out whereby the individual city could rate the efficiency of its own department as to the operation of the standard.

It was felt that any comparison between cities would be detrimental to the work as a whole.

#### Securing Adequate Living Salaries for Recreation Workers in Order That Effective Leaders May Be Kept in the Movement

DR. F. W. MARONEY

President, Arnold College for Hygiene of Physical Education, New Haven, Connecticut

E. Wetmore Kinsley, Chairman of Community Service Commission in Yonkers, New York, who presided, stressed the fact that workers should

get the salaries they are worth. This, in turn, depends upon the worker's ability, his training, his experience and the community in which he works.

James V. Mulholland, of New York City, said that the director must be young in spirit, a good organizer, a master in technique and a magnetic leader. Mr. Mulholland dynamited the meeting by offering a resolution that at once became the keynote. He said:

"Whereas, the playground director should possess qualifications as high or higher than the teachers of health and physical education, and

"Whereas, the work of playground directors is as important in the life of the child and adult as the work of a physical education teacher, and

"Whereas, playground directors in some cities possess qualifications equal to those of health and physical education teachers, and

"Whereas, the acquisition of ideal playground directors is as important as the acquisition of new playgrounds in bringing about fewer accidents, less juvenile delinquency, better children and better parents, and

"Whereas, ideal playground directors cannot be obtained without adequate compensation, therefore

"Be it resolved, that the National Recreation Association approve the equalization of salaries of playground directors with those of health and physical education teachers, and that this association approve the raising of standards for playground directors to that of health and physical education directors, and

"Be it further resolved, that this important subject be called to the attention of all municipal authorities by the National Recreation Association."

C. D. Giauque, of Athens, Ohio, stressed the increase in budget and plants throughout the country in the last twenty years and stated that this growth, as far as he has been able to learn, has not been accompanied by a comparable increase in salaries of directors and workers in the field of recreation; that the medium men's salary throughout the country is \$1,200, which is hardly an adequate salary, and the medium for women is \$948, which is not quite enough. I think you will all agree with him. The public demands service and should be willing to pay for it.

Mr. Giauque advised the raising of training standards which would lead to better teachers and better salaries.

Robert E. Coady, of Cincinnati, told us of the work that is being done at the University of Cin-

cinnati and stressed the importance of the positive point of view. To our surprise, consternation, chagrin and amazement, he brought in a copy of *American Mercury* and told us that "Big Business" was raiding Washington and that we must be careful of the high priced power men in recreation, otherwise we would lose them! He paid a glowing tribute to the report of the Committee on Standards in Salaries and Training appointed by the National Recreation Association.

Charles Davis, of Berkeley, California, after indirectly telling us of the advantages of that great state, stated that salaries should be paid upon merit rather than upon years of service. There are two methods, he said, of getting better salaries. First, the direct method of getting your needs stated and in the budget, outlining your program, selling your program and being enthusiastic. Second, the indirect method of publicity through Parent-Teacher associations, civic organizations and political organizations.

Dr. William Burdick, of Baltimore, stressed the importance of academic training if we were to approximate the positions of men and women in other lines.

As I sensed the feeling of the meeting, and speaking for them, I would suggest the old saying, "A teacher who works for hire will never get any higher." And at the same time, with you and with me working, you in recreation, I in health and physical education, with all the people in the organization working, your program and my program is not the program of the executive who sits in a splendid office and has all of his reports, but rather is a program of the executive who is willing to get out into the playground and teach and stimulate those people. Because, in the last analysis, again, as I sensed the meeting, the success of any organization depends upon the individual worker on the playground. And if Ruskin was right when he spoke about "All that you are doing and I am doing," it seems to me, again, that the spirit of our meeting might be expressed in the following:

"If it is love and an abiding faith in mankind; if it is a willingness to subordinate self to the needs of others; if it is an appreciation of the responsibilities you have accepted, and you propose to keep yourselves fit and ready to discharge them worthily—that move you, then the spirit is upon you and the world is yours and the fullness thereof." And only with a gospel like that will we ever get adequate salaries for playground workers.

## Recreation Progress: 1906-1930; the Present; the Next Ten Years

JAMES E. ROGERS

Director, National Physical Education Service, National Recreation Association

We felt in our meeting that along with the other professions, such as medicine and education, we should make a forecast, we should look ahead, we should stop talking about 1930 or 1931 and rather talk in terms of the next ten years, of 1940. We, too, are in a period of transition. We are on the threshold of real fundamental changes in our professions and certainly we should look ahead and get compass points.

The speakers discovered a past of progress and achievement, a present with a program that is ever-expanding and a future that is challenging with its concept of leisure time and with a growing, unfolding profession that has to do with the art of living.

Ten points developed in trying to make a forecast in this great, expanding, growing, unfolding profession of ours.

The first was that we did, of course, have a past of rich achievement.

The second was that today—1930—perhaps the most outstanding, significant civic contribution to our modern community life in America has been this rapid recognition that recreation is a public utility, as important as health, education or safety, that it is a public necessity, a municipal function of government, that a city must provide playgrounds and recreation centers just as it furnishes schools, sewers or streets, that it must provide for trained leadership as it employs a superintendent of schools or a chief of police.

Third: Although in the past ten years there has been a remarkable growth in the acquiring of areas and facilities, in the next ten years we must acquire twice as much property as we have in the past.

Fourth: Now, before it is too late, we must acquire play areas for the future, a need which is pressing and immediate.

Fifth: Throughout, all speakers stressed the expanding and enriching program. Plays, games, sports, athletics, physical activities, of course, always will be with us and be a great part of our program. But in the future, in the next ten years, we also must stress the art and culturally recreational—the recreational interests of music, drama,

nature study, gardens, hiking, camping—all those things that have to do with the enrichment of leisure time.

Sixth: In the future, recreation has a large contribution to make to adult education.

Seventh: Recreation must concern itself with avocational living, with hobbies, with the creative interest of folks.

Eighth: Public recreation and public education must come together and cooperate in the business of providing for leisure time. Each has much to give to the other.

Ninth: In the next ten years there must be a new leadership, with a new recreation philosophy, a new psychology. For we are living in a new day which is changing rapidly. All professions are trying to meet this new day, these new conditions. We are adjusting and adapting ourselves, so that when we meet here in Atlantic City in 1940, we, too, must have a new technique, a new philosophy.

Tenth: In the future, with the growing job to be done, a closer cooperation between all municipal public and semi-public groups touching leisure time will be necessary.

The six high spots were these:

1. Recreation is the only field of human endeavor where Democracy nowadays has a chance. Leisure is the only one place left for Democracy.

2. We must enrich and expand our program to include not only the physical but (a) the arts; (b) the cultural interests; (c) the appreciation of this avocational living of ours that makes for the enrichment of life, the life more abundant.

3. Folks are hungry for avocational, informal education. Doctor Ashe, of Miami University, spoke about the 3,000 people, not formally enrolled in extension courses in the University but there because of the joy of it, the play of it—interested in astronomy; the thousand who are going into Aztec Literature, not enrolled for degrees or credits, but just for the joy. Folks are hungry for avocational recreation or education.

4. Recreation has brought creation to the schools.

5. We, in recreation, must become interested in creative youth, in progressive education.

6. Education and recreation, separately and together, have much to contribute to the art of living in developing this new time leisure.

### Local Recreation Survey—What Found—What Results?

EUGENE T. LIES

*Special Representative, National Recreation Association*

On this subject our group, though it held no referendum election in the meeting, seemed to resolve somewhat as follows:

First: Recreation executives should carry on a continuous survey of conditions affecting their work, their relations with other agencies, next-step needs and improvements.

Second: Special intensive studies of definite problems, calling for more time than an executive and his staff can give, or for a type of skill not possessed by them, are often required.

Third: From time to time, possibly every ten years, a general and thoroughgoing survey of the total situation, recreationally speaking, is desirable. This could be a study of the leisure time problem of the community in all its aspects in order to determine just where the town stands as to meeting the problem and the direction it seems to be taking. Such a study would cover examination of the kind and quality of work being done by private, semi-public and public agencies, including park and recreation departments, museums, libraries, schools and art institutes. It would also bring into the picture the homes, the industries and the commercial amusement enterprises. In such a comprehensive type of study, much consideration can and should be given to the fundamental hungers of human beings for creative expression along social, esthetic, manual, dramatic as well as physical lines.

How much leisure have the people of this city? What are they doing with it? What could they be doing with it toward the glorification of life and the betterment of their community? Are the homes alive to the possibilities of training children for leisure? To what degree do school authorities see the direction their institutions must take if they would fit their charges for a new world in which strength and quality of personal interests and choices will determine destiny?

What is the distinct place and function in the recreation life of the community of agencies like the Y. M. C. A., the Y. W. C. A., the Scouts, the church, fraternal bodies, and others, as over against the public recreation system? Are the commercial recreation enterprises of the town in their influence upon the people adding to the sum total of wholesome, happy living, or are they more

than nullifying all the good that the constructive agencies are doing? If the latter be the case, why is it the case and what ought to be done about it?

How can existing legitimate recreational forces and resources be strengthened and at what points, and when, and how are additional facilities to be provided?

These and scores of other queries are legitimate ones for consideration in a thoroughgoing type of survey. It should embody inventory and a statesmanlike, human-culture sort of look ahead.

Surveys should be stimulating guides, contain facts, conclusions and recommendations. They will be real guides if done with care and common sense and scientifically, if the surveyors are objective-minded, without a sense of having axes to grind or a purpose to haul others' chestnuts out of the fire.

Volunteers at various points in the general survey process can often be used with profit. Cer-

tainly there should be an Advisory Council, carefully selected, in relation to the whole procedure, to serve as encouragers—as a sort of "store front"—as tipsters and as a nucleus for that body of public opinion so absolutely necessary to be developed if recommendations are to be carried out later.

An abiding group is essential to stay on the job forever, if need be, to push, push, push in all the directions set forth in the survey report. The recreation survey report that finds its way to the closest shelf, there to abide ad infinitum, represents waste and futility.

The recreation survey report that gets out to the people with proper interpretation and presentation may be the means, in the last analysis, of saving the people, of getting the city of those people set up on a high hill for all the world to point to as a place where live folksy folks, happy folks, vital folks, complete types of folks.

## Who Are Alive?

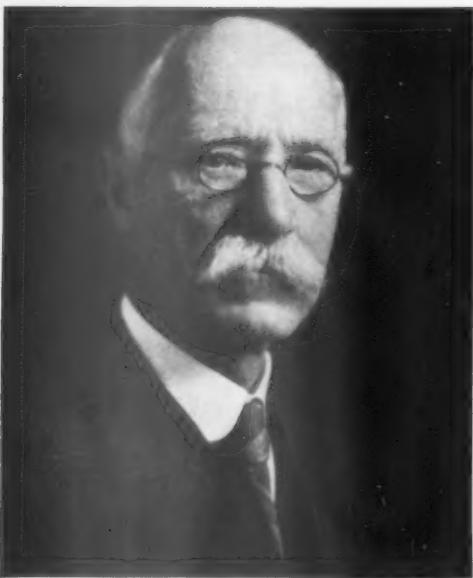
There are comparatively few men and women alive in the world, although there are hundreds of millions of living human beings. The gap between a living human being and the man who is alive is far wider than the gap between the human being and the other primates, although it is much more easily and quickly bridged by one who truly understands the arts of design and construction. The bridge which is so designed and constructed is conventionally described as a liberal education. It is the most beautiful and the most capacious bridge in the world, and it could carry a far heavier traffic than it has ever yet been called upon to bear.

All our colossal expenditure, all our magnificent buildings, all our years of training for teachers are useless, and something worse than useless, unless this great and beautiful bridge can steadily be built for a growing number of men and women who are able and willing to be free. The insulated

life is the selfish, the self-centered, the narrow, and sooner or later, the embittered life. Yet despite all this, it is the only life which millions upon millions of human beings ever know, as it is the only life toward which the footsteps of millions upon millions of innocent children are ever directed.

Narrowness of knowledge, narrowness of sympathy, narrowness of understanding, narrowness of conviction are the marks of that insulated life from which there is no escape save over the bridge which liberal education builds. That bridge leads to those fields of perennial wisdom which are the coveted resting place of the thoughtful in every age. It leaves behind that world of illusions which the insulated man calls facts, while so often entirely and blissfully unconscious of that world of realities which he derides as ideas.—*Nicholas Murray Butler. From Journal of Adult Education, June, 1930*

# A Critical Look at Recreation As Viewed at the Seventeenth Annual Congress



Joseph Lee, president of the National Recreation Association, briefly summarizes the Congress. He leaves with us the question: "Shall we give the people what they want?" And he makes the plea that we give them beauty.

WANT to say a few words about what you might call the "imponderables" of what we have heard, and what it is all about. In the first place, I was very much struck with the speakers we have had. And the last speaker we heard this morning, Sir Henry Thornton, is a very good instance of how very much you get from the speaker's personality.

I have also thought of other speakers. For instance Dr. Finley. Now, what would Dr. Finley's jokes be without Dr. Finley? They are very good jokes, indeed, but supposing I were to get them off now—you wouldn't think they were funny at all. I am not going to repeat them just to illustrate that, but you know it is true. And his walking. We don't care how many miles he walks, but we care a lot about how he feels about it. And it is delightful. You almost want to go out and walk yourself. You almost feel as if it would be a perfectly wonderful thing to do after hearing Dr. Finley talk about it.

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*By Joseph Lee, LL.D.*

Then Dr. Poling and his religious speech. Why, it was what was showing through him, involuntarily, that got us. It was the real thing.

Professor Kennedy, of Princeton. You remember his speech. It formulated what we mean by the moral effect of play as I have never heard it formulated before. He made it clear-cut. But what I carry away and treasure most was the sort of hard bitten Scotch morality behind it. Why, I could feel Bannockburn, the Covenant, right there on the platform. That race has done much. They have probably saved Democracy to the world. I think that was the biggest thing we got out of Professor Kennedy's speech.

Dr. Jacks. Generations of mellow culture. What we are all trying to do was standing right here. That was more than anything he could say.

Rabbi Silver. That was having the Old Testament speak right out to you. One God whose jurisdiction is the whole of life.

Gene Tunney. Courage; modesty; straight thinking and straight hitting; character standing right up there before you.

I didn't hear Dr. Osgood. Then there was Mr. Zanzig, the almost invisible soul of music.

This is what I got out of the Congress. The imponderables are what we are talking about—though it is impossible to talk about them. What we are talking about is poetry.

As to the practical things we got. Play. It is remarkable how technical we are getting in this play business, how we do this and we do that. We have gotten beyond talking about what it is all about in play. We have gone awfully far, and it is quite wonderful. I like to hear these discussions.

Now, in our new field, leisure, we have not gone so far. We are rather bewildered, I think. The American people are very much bewildered as to what leisure is for. I don't think they have any idea what it is for. And I don't think we know

yet very well. I don't know just how blind we are, but we are blind. What is it we are trying to do?

I am not going to attempt to tell you what we are trying to do, but there is just one particular way of putting it that I would like to mention. One question was, "Will you give them what they want or what is good for them?" That sounds very easy. Why, of course, give them what they want. To give them what is good for them sounds so bad that you wouldn't do that to any poor fellow, unless you hated him a lot!

### Shall We Give Them What They Want?

But is what they want to be our guide? What you pay for a thing is a pretty good test of what you want. Are the paid forms of recreation the kind we want to teach? Where does most of the money go? The kind of books and plays that "go" are those which deal with sex in certain ways that I don't think we are going to teach. What is called "the oldest profession in the world" is one of the most remunerative. It can pay heavy graft to the police and still make big dividends. Gambling, referred to by Dr. Jacks, is another thing people want.

"Give the people what they want." That is the cry for the lowest-down things in the country. "Give them what they want and what they will pay for."

I suppose you could make more money selling opium than almost anything else. It would bring in bigger dividends. And even with the police bothering you it would be very profitable. You might almost say that lust is considered our God and salesmanship the method. Show them what they will pay for. That is stating a crude side of

it which is certainly there—though not by any means the whole.

They will go to the very beautiful things and pay for them. We have had two illustrations in Boston this Summer. Beautiful concerts out on the grass by the Back Bay; beautiful lights; just the open place for a radius of about a hundred yards. I don't know how many thousand people in it. I have been there several times. Not a toot of an automobile horn, not a noisy interruption of any kind—just right out there on the grass. And a beautiful concert given by a large part of the symphony orchestra.

And Mrs. White's pageants on the Common. The papers say they were attended by, I think, 75,000 every time, three times a week.

Those things go. The people will pay for good things. But yet the symphony concerts run \$80,000 a year behind. Eva Le Gallienne's Theatre runs behind I don't know how much. You can hardly say that the best art pays.

Now what? Really, in a way it seems pretty simple. You must give people what they want. You can't give them anything else. If they don't come, you are not giving it to them. It must be what they want. You say, "What is good for them? Would you give them what is bad for them?" Well, no. It is what they want that isn't bad for them that you must give them. "Bad for them" isn't a good phrase and that isn't a good way of putting it.

I think the thing we need to remember is that the gold is there. It is for us to dig for it. I think we must learn, and the American people must learn, that they have to climb upon asses, that they have to listen at the fountain longer to hear the voice, that they have got to do something about it or the spirit will never be there.

## Beauty in Our National Parks

"While the National Parks serve in an important sense as recreation areas, their primary uses extend far into that fundamental education which concerns real appreciation of nature. Here beauty in its truest sense receives expression and exerts its influence along with recreation and formal education. To me the parks are not merely places to rest and exercise and learn. They are regions where one looks through the veil to meet the realities of nature and of the unfathomable power behind it.

"I cannot say what worship really is—nor am I

sure that others will do better—but often in the parks I remember Bryant's lines, 'Why should we, in the world's riper years, neglect God's ancient sanctuaries, and adore only among the crowd, and under roofs that our frail hands have raised?' National parks represent opportunities for worship through which one comes to understand more fully certain of the attributes of nature and its Creator. They are not objects to be worshipped, but they are altars over which we may worship."—John C. Merriam in a *National Park Creed, National Parks Bulletin*, March, 1930.

# A Look Ahead

## The Necessity of Recreation

By Gene Tunney

I WAS born and raised in the great City of New York, and the only playground or recreation center I had in my boyhood was the sidewalk. Therefore, I have a great appreciation of the work you are doing and the importance of the movement.

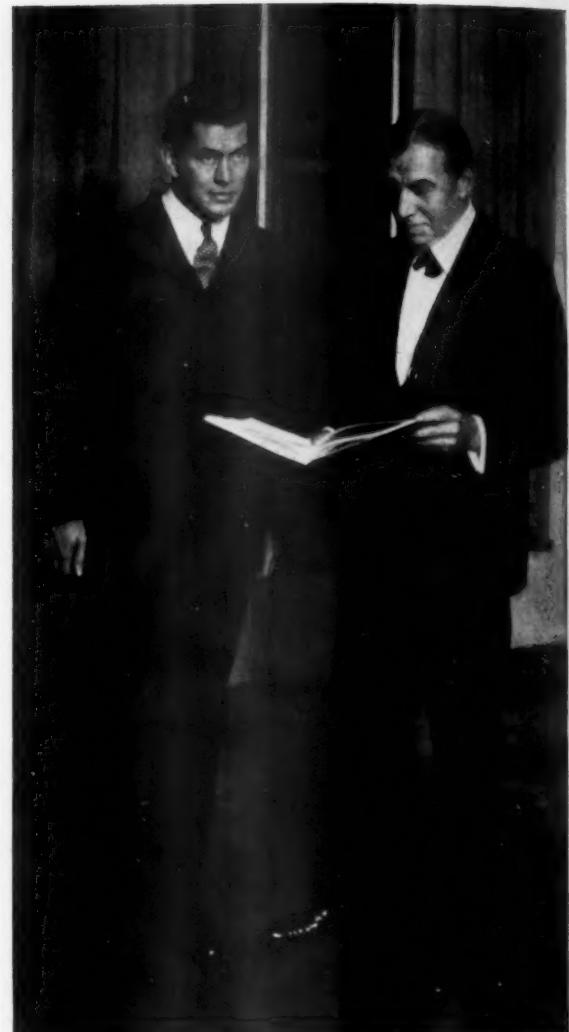
I can think back very vividly—oh, too vividly—to the misspent leisure of my boyhood. Had there been such an organization as this in our neck of the woods, or a branch of it, I am sure I would have profited by it.

I have never done any scientific investigating of playground and recreation work. But from my experiences and because of the recollection of those experiences and the fact that I have made certain observations as I have traveled about, I have a certain knowledge of what this work means, and I think I have a few practical ideas on the subject.

Man's genius has wrought a new era. When my father was a boy, two-thirds of the people of this country lived on farms and worked on farms. And they worked with equipment that had been used in the 14th and 15th centuries. The genius of man has invented and developed new equipment and machinery, so that now one man with this new equipment and machinery can do the work which required fifty men to do seventy years ago. Today, two-thirds of the population of this country live in the cities. They are interested in industry.

The genius of man has invented engines and machinery so that now one man or one mechanic in an eight hour day—if the day could be spread over the necessary machines—could supplant fifty of us, so that we would have forty-nine doing something else. Now, what would they be doing? Of course, some of the various by-products of industry would absorb some, but not all.

A new pattern—a new sociological and economic pattern—is being woven, and I see leisure the most prominent figure of the group.



Dr. John H. Finley presents Gene Tunney with a volume of *The Colophon* at the National Recreation Congress.

The question is, "What is to be done with leisure?" The machine age has caught up to the wants of mankind. We haven't the power of consumption to absorb what the machines can produce. Therefore, we are going to have over-production if we don't cut down production. We are going to have a great deal of unemployment if we don't distribute work more evenly, which means that we have got to cut down the working day, we have got to cut down the days of the working week. That will mean more leisure. Well, what are we to do with that leisure?

It is up to this organization, I think, to solve the problem for this country. It is the only organization that I know of that is interested in the work, and I cannot lay too much stress on

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# A Modern Perspective on the Public Recreation Movement

An airplane view of America's recreation facilities shows remarkable progress and discloses new, important trends.

**A** FEW days ago in an airplane flight to and from Wheeling, West

Virginia, where I assisted in the celebration of the initiation of a recreational and cultural community project in Oglebay Park that should become a model for America, the feature of the man-made landscape which, aside from the churches and the school-houses, most impressed me, were the playgrounds. There was hardly a town or village in which there were not clearly distinguished from the skies baseball fields and tennis courts and golf courses. Here and there was a stadium or a bank of seats, and one would think at times that one was flying over Ancient Greece with its many out-of-door theatres.

It occurred to me that if the Lord had such an intimate view of His little planet He must be pleased that the descendants of Adam and Eve, who were doomed to earn their living by the sweat of their brows, could have so much time to play and to recover their lost Paradise. Their early descendants had to spend all their time in roaming about in search of enough to eat and in finding shelter. And when they got a little further along and had surrounded themselves by city walls, the few made the many their slaves to work for them, without any free time or leisure.

As I say, the most striking new landscape feature, as seen from the skies, is the community provision for play. The shadows which the cities and the towns and villages have cast upon the ground are lighted by these happy spaces of refreshment and recreation which auspiciously grow larger.

We who are in the midst of the work of recreation leadership on the ground do not perhaps fully realize how rapidly the movement has been pressing forward in the last decade or more. Just think how different the appearance would have been twenty, thirty or forty years ago, if we could have flown over the landscape! It is conservatively estimated that in 1929 during the

*By John H. Finley, LL.D.*

Vice President, National Recreation Association

summer months, three million persons daily attended the public playgrounds of the

United States and Canada. Three million boys and girls, men and women, per day, on an average! And that is exclusive of bathing beaches, swimming pools and athletic fields where millions more attended and which are separate from playground areas. What an enormous advance from 1885, when, I am told, the first little sand garden for little children was opened in the City of Boston!

The growth in playgrounds illustrates the rapid progress of this public recreation idea. In 1909, a total of 1535 outdoor playgrounds, under leadership, was reported. That number last year had grown to 7681—and during the past year 794 new playgrounds were opened for the first time.

Someone has recently said that a new Society of Youth is forming in the safety zones for play scattered throughout the land. This we may well believe, in view of the known value of organized play in character growth, in the building of stronger bodies, in stimulating good health, in the unfolding of personality and in the zestful enjoyment of life.

Then, of course, there is indoor recreation to be added. I think I will not burden your memories with the figures. But the municipal bill for public recreation in 1929 was upwards of \$33,000,000, and it was an increase of \$30,000,000 over the 1909 report, and almost \$27,000,000 more than the 1919 report. The day of the million dollar annual recreation budgets has arrived.

## Some Important Trends

This period of great expansion and quantitative growth has witnessed important trends. First—and I am glad to note this—there is a shift away from the original charity basis to a democratic community basis. A man said to me the other day, coming back from Europe, that what impressed him most was that the war memorials were not to great chieftains, but were

to the soldiers, to groups of soldiers or to the common soldiers. And, of course, we have witnessed that in the tribute to the Unknown Soldier in most of the countries. Democracy is coming to assert itself in provision for play. A good playground is now looked upon as a necessity for a town. There is no reason why it should bear the taint, shall I say, of uplift, any more than a city water supply or rural free delivery or the public school. When the man comes with the mail—and with the *New York Times*—to my country place, I do not look upon him as an agent of charity—although I may say in passing that the *Times* really costs more than I have to pay for it!

The privileged as well as the less fortune child enjoys parks and playgrounds sports, learning through organized games the spirit of sportsmanship and co-operation, which are the necessary parts of education of every boy and every girl. The service has expanded from playgrounds for children to playgrounds for all forms of recreation for persons of all ages, from infancy to the edge of the grave. Socrates, it is said, did not blush to ride a reed—a stick, we might say—among little children.

For example, last year there were ten million games of municipal golf played by adults. In a lecture which I delivered a year ago in Scotland, I called attention to the statistics of golf in America, a game, as you know, originally taught us by the Scottish players. These showed that there were more golf players in America than there are inhabitants of Scotland, and if the golf courses were put together, end to end, they would make a strip—I have forgotten just how wide—but the length of Scotland.

In the next place, private support has in the great majority of cities given way to municipal support, from tax funds. I remember over in Scotland Mr. Carnegie had his own links, but only a short distance away from his place were the public links, and he, himself, went over often and played on the public links.

I played with Mr. Carnegie on his private links, and perhaps I may tell you what he said about my game. We played a few holes out at St. Andrews here in New York, and my conscience began to trouble me. I said to Mr. Carnegie, "I don't know about this. I don't know what my people would say when I ought to be in my office and here I am playing golf with you"—as if I had no business to be mingling with such malefactors. Quick as a flash, he said,

"Oh, don't mind. We will both certify that you are not playing golf."

In the fourth place, alongside the extremely popular physical activities of grown-ups, there are music and drama, the arts and other activities. "The range of pursuits is as varied as the interests of the human spirit." That is a beautiful scope for our work.

Then the idea of active recreation has overflowed the bounds of the playground and has entered the parks, entered the schools, become a basis of all progressive education under the name of the interest element, and it has brought new vitality to the church, in hundreds of communities where it is now seen that it has much to do with the abundant life of which the Master used to speak. It has come to many homes, also, with its message of harmony and of joy. These outreaches of public recreation are significant in the culture of our times.

In the next place, there has been what might be called a geographical trend, the extension out into the country. Another feature which impressed me as I flew across three states, was the amount of woodland unoccupied, unimproved land, within close reach of the cities.

These trends have been in pronounced evidence for ten or fifteen years or more, and more recently others have emerged and are becoming stronger. There is the growing practice among real estate men of setting aside parks and playgrounds in their subdivisions as a profitable, attractive feature similar to streets, water supply, schools and other improvements. The National Recreation Association is vigorously cooperating in this movement.

Then there is a shift from an emphasis on the promotion of more projects and more recreation, to an emphasis on the education and training of those who are to lead in recreation. This is seen in the multiplying number of institutes in cities for both volunteers and employees, in higher standards for employment, in the growing number of courses in schools and colleges, in the wholesome attitude of self-criticism to which leaders are subjecting themselves, and perhaps most strikingly in the establishment of the National Recreation School in New York City, with its year's course of graduate training.

It is perhaps not too much to say that we are passing out of the missionary period of promotion and expansion and quantity into a period of educational self-criticism and scientific review of our techniques. In a word, the emphasis is now

increasingly on quality. The searching frankness of the questions we have set before ourselves in this Conference suggests that.

Of course, there must still be promotion. My attention has been called again and again to the rural field, and I am especially interested in that. I was brought up in the country. I had an early rural experience, and I am so glad that the Association is taking an interest in the rural boy.

#### Clearing Away the Obstacles

Yes, we have got some extension work to do. But the increasing emphasis now must be on quality, on correcting evils, if there are any, and clearing away obstacles which hold us back from the maximum service which we might give. A few of these I have set down here:

First, that of political favoritism in the selection of workers. Nothing has been, I am told by those who have had the experience, a greater stumbling block to public recreation than that. A recreation job is not, or should not be, a political "plum" any more than an educational job should be. The playground should not be the dumping-ground for incompetents in order that political debts may be paid. Play and recreation, which are the very essence of life, must be kept free from any demoralizing political control.

Then there is the problem of inadequate salaries. A playground leader, properly trained and competent, is as valuable to society as a school teacher. And an executive is often as important as a school superintendent. They should be recognized with comparable salaries.

In the next place, there is the problem of closer cooperation between the various departments of our city governments in the use of facilities and in the prevention of over-lapping. Then there is the necessity of much closer cooperation with city planners and educators and social workers. I need not expand that.

In the next place, it is imperative that we shall be constantly ready to review our objectives, to keep in touch with the progress of educational activities and methods displayed in progressive schools, to keep alive to the findings of science in educational psychology and the organization of community life. And we must not be hostile or stubborn in the face of outside criticism and study.

And now I lay this on your conscience—the necessity of oneness in the recreation movement. I mean the essential unity between the national

agency and the departments or committees and their leaders in each community. I know that most of your cities are municipal in their organization, and our national organization is, of course, private. Nevertheless, your success is, in a measure, our success, and our success helps to insure yours. We are, in a sense, one family.

It is inspiring to me, and I think it must be to any civic-minded person, to realize the significance of the questions which we are taking up in this National Association and Congress. It shows that we are ready to grapple with the things that need correcting. After all, the first and one of the biggest steps in mastering an obstacle is to face it courageously, unafraid. There can be no doubt that a great future lies ahead for the movement of which we are a part, and a pioneer part. More and more, daily leisure is in prospect for all, and it is compelled for many. Articles about it, about its dangers and opportunities, appear in almost every magazine. Increasingly editors and public officials discuss its problems.

I have often said, and I think it was mentioned the other day in one of the issues of a publication, that I was a pioneer. I think they used some wording to the effect that I was an old man. At any rate, I thought I was the first to speak about the right use of leisure, educating people to make the best and right use of leisure. And I rather thought I was original in that until, as I have often said, I discovered that Aristotle had said it two thousand years ago. And this comes to my mind:

#### Vocation and Avocation

There was a man who died in New York the other day—a school superintendent. Some of you here may have known him. His name was McCabe. He looked so much like President Wilson that he was sometimes taken for him. Here is a good illustration of the relationship of vocation and avocation—the use of leisure time. He started in as a printer—a printer's boy. But he was very much interested in music on the side, and he became in a little time an organist in a church, and then in a larger church. Then he made music his vocation. But he began, on the side, to study mathematics. He kept on with his music and with his mathematics, and by and by became a teacher of mathematics. But incidentally he was interested also in the general subject of teaching, and he took an examination for a principalship and be-

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The Christmas Spirit Transforms the Court Room of the Mt. Vernon, N. Y., Police Station.

# Old World Christmas Customs

To the foreign-born peoples in the United States Christmas is a season especially rich in meaning and in memories. In their own countries it was surrounded by a wealth of traditions and was celebrated with colorful ceremony. Most of the Christmas processions and pageants which made the village festive and united it for the time being into one large family have had to be abandoned as not suited to American city life, but in their homes and in their churches the foreign-born and their children will undoubtedly reproduce many of the old-world customs and rites.

## St. Nicholas, in Bishop's Robes, Visits Czechoslovakia

In many countries the day of St. Nicholas, December 6th, is of considerable importance to children, who look forward to it as an occasion for gifts. In Czechoslovakia, they hang their stockings outside the window or near the window so that when St. Nicholas passes by he can drop gifts into them. This is done in case he does not find time to make a visit to their home. Attired in bishop's robes, St. Nicholas is accompanied by his traditional attendants on such expeditions, an angel and a red-tongued devil. The devil carries a long chain which he rattles significantly and a basket of switches meant for naughty children; the angel has toys and sweets for distribution among the good ones.

The 24th of December is a fast day and many do not eat till evening. The children are told that if they will abstain from food till evening they will see a golden pig. When the evening meal finally is served, it is well worth waiting for. Its preparation has taken days or even weeks. It is meatless; carp served with a dark sauce is the chief dish. The carp must be bought alive and kept alive until it is time to clean and cook it; its preparation is of great interest and is usually watched by every member of the family.

Our own community Christmas celebrations are so absorbing that most of us give little thought to the Christmas traditions of foreign countries to which we are so indebted for our own customs. The information on Old World customs which has been brought together by the staff members of the Foreign Language Information Service, New York City, gives a fascinating panorama of Christmas in foreign lands. Through the courtesy of the Service this information is being brought to readers of *Playground and Recreation*.

After the evening meal, the family gathers around the Christmas tree and presents are distributed. Then they try to look into the future. Melted lead or wax is poured into water and from the shapes it takes, fortunes are told. Apples cut across so as to show a star of kernels indicate coming events. The girls set tiny candles in nutshells and float them in

pans of water; she whose candle floats upright the longest and burns to the end will have the best husband and the longest life. It is also the custom for the girls to go into the garden and rattle the ice-covered branches of a bush—preferably a lilac bush. Aroused by the noise, the dogs in the neighborhood begin to bark. From the direction from which the first barking is heard, will come the girl's husband.

At midnight the Catholic family attends mass. The church is beautifully decorated with evergreens and Christmas trees, and there is always a Christmas crib. On Christmas day there are several church services. The Christmas celebration in Czechoslovakia always lasts three days; here where it is possible, both the 25th and 26th of December are kept as holidays.

## In Germany, Where the Christmas Tree Originated

The German child also expects gifts on St. Nicholas day. The night before he hangs up his stocking or places his shoe in front of the window and in the morning he finds in it marzipan or nuts, or possibly, if his behavior has been very reprehensible, a switch.

Christmas eve is a great occasion in Germany and in German households everywhere. Roast goose or duck is the traditional dish and green kale or sprouts. German Christmas cakes are famous; equally famous is the candy made of almond paste, marzipan.

The Christmas tree originated in Germany; Martin Luther is supposed to have introduced the custom. Practically every German home lights

such a tree on Christmas eve. Usually each child is asked to improvise a Christmas poem. Then the family gathers about the tree singing the Christmas songs of which Germany possesses an unusual wealth. Some of them are of great antiquity.

There are Christmas services in the German churches on Christmas eve and Christmas day. In this country the Christmas eve service is, as a rule, held at five o'clock and is usually in German. On each side of the altar stands a Christmas tree quite frequently decorated entirely in white and glistening with snow and silver and candles. Christmas cribs are found both in the churches and in the homes and evergreens are used lavishly for decoration.

#### Christmas a Two Day Legal Holiday in Hungary

In Hungary, as in several other European countries, December 6th is the original Santa Claus day for children. In some villages St. Nicholas, in bishop's robes, goes about with an attendant—a devil—and distributes rewards to good children and admonitions to naughty ones. Usually, however, the children place their boots or shoes on the window sills and as he passes by, the Saint leaves small gifts or birch rods in them.

Christmas in Hungary lasts two days and each day is a legal holiday. Church bells ring much of the time. Christmas eve is an occasion of great festivity. The evening meal is served when the first star appears. Before the meal the family assembles around the Christmas tree. A prayer is said and the gifts are distributed. The ornaments on the tree are usually home-made. Nuts are gilded or silvered, and dates, Christmas biscuits and small Italian blood-oranges are wrapped in gaily colored tissue paper and hung on its branches. Among the delicacies on the tree "szalon cukor" is sure to figure largely; this is a home-made candy much like fudge in consistency and very popular among Hungarians.

At midnight, mass is celebrated in the Hungarian churches. The church, which in an Hungarian village is usually set on top of a hill, is brilliantly lighted and toward it stream the people in their colorful peasant costumes. Inside there is a profusion of flowers and evergreen, and a Christmas crib, which is usually very elaborate and beautiful. The scene at Bethlehem is reproduced, with three Kings, the shepherds, and the angels, as well as the Holy Family.

During the Christmas season, groups of gaily

dressed children go about the village streets singing carols; they usually carry with them on a tray a miniature manger or crib. There are also in many villages outdoor performances of simple passion plays.

#### Religious Ceremonies Predominate in Italy

Among Italians a Novena of religious preparation precedes Christmas. On the first day a manger, or presepio, is prepared in the home and every morning for the nine days the family assembles before it and recites special prayers. This custom is observed in practically every section of Italy and also among Italians in the United States. The mangers are as beautiful and elaborate as the means of the family permit. In Italy they are, as a rule, home-made and wee candles supply illumination. In the United States, those who can, purchase beautiful images and elaborate decorations and use colored electric bulbs instead of candles.

In Italy during the nine days of the Novena, bagpipers, "zampognari," go from house to house and play before the mangers. In some sections of the country these men are dressed as shepherds and sing the shepherd song, "cantata dei pastori." They are in return rewarded by the housewives with gifts of food or money. The "zampognari" are more frequently met with in southern Italy than in the north.

The real merry-making for the Italians comes on Christmas eve and much more is thought of Christmas eve than of Christmas day itself. As the 24th is a fast day, the evening meal must be meatless, but it is nevertheless very elaborate, and in the humblest home takes on the aspect of a banquet. In certain sections of Italy, particularly in Sicily and Calabria, the housewife prepares twenty-four different viands for this meal. As none of them may contain meat, their preparation requires much ingenuity and care.

Christmas trees are not used in Italy, nor do evergreens decorate the homes and the churches. The use of evergreens for this purpose originated in connection with pagan festivals. The Church in the North did not oppose the introduction of the custom into the Christmas celebration, but in the South it was prohibited. Gift-giving is not a prominent feature of Christmas in Italy, only children and old people receiving presents, which, as a rule, are inexpensive and simple. The Yule log takes the place of Christmas tree and Santa Claus. It is customary in almost every home to burn a Yule log on Christmas eve. Before it is

lighted, all the children are gathered around the fireplace and blindfolded. Each child from the oldest to the youngest, must recite a "sermone" (a verse of poetry) to the Christ Child. Then the blind is removed and each child finds before him a small heap of gifts which he is told the Christ Child has brought. In certain sections of Italy the children tap the Yule log with a wand and ask for the gifts they want.

Among Italians the Christmas eve festival is considered a family affair. However, in many cases it takes on the appearance of a party, as anyone in any degree related is invited. The Christmas eve supper lasts for several hours, usually until it is time to go to midnight mass. After mass there is merrymaking and calling upon neighbors until the early morning hours.

The Christmas season extends to the Day of Epiphany, January 6th. Not till then are the mangers dismantled. It is a time of much festivity, dancing, and games. In certain sections of Italy, Twelfth Night, January 5th, is the time for the giving of gifts. The Befana, an old woman of witch-like appearance and in black robes, visits the homes on that evening and, like Santa Claus, distributes presents to the children.

#### Christmas Customs in Lithuania

In Lithuania Christmas is a three-day celebration; in this country Lithuanians have shortened it, though they observe at least two days as holidays, if they possibly can. The festivities begin on Christmas eve, as soon as the first star appears in the sky. First of all each person is given a brightly colored wafer, "plotkeles," which has been consecrated in church. He shares it with everyone present, a ceremony symbolizing the love and harmony which exist among them. After that they sit down to the Christmas eve meal, of which fish is the chief dish. The table is adorned with immense loaves of bread, sprinkled with poppy seed and stamped with the image of the Christ Child. Under the tablecloth there is placed a layer of hay in memory of the night at Bethlehem.

Mass is celebrated in the old country, at five o'clock on Christmas morning. Both here and in Lithuania, the churches are beautifully decorated with evergreens and flowers. There is always a Christmas crib in the church and usually it is shown against a background of rocks, trees and houses representing the town of Bethlehem. At the mass, Lithuanian Christmas songs are sung.

These songs have been handed down from generation to generation and they are held in high esteem and reverence. In the United States, the Lithuanians have adopted the custom of giving presents at Christmas, but in Lithuania such is not the case. As in several other European countries, it is on St. Nicholas day, December 6th, that the "Kaledu Diedukas," an old man corresponding to Santa Claus, makes his appearance and distributes gifts to the children.

New Year's eve in Lithuania is an amusing time. After the evening meal, two or three masked men and women carrying flaring torches call at some house in the village. They are entertained with the best the house affords, and there is music and dancing. Then they leave, and their host and hostess, also masked, accompany them to the house next in line. In this way the torchlit procession grows apace, eventually including practically all the inhabitants of the village and the people living on nearby farms.

To commemorate the visit of the three kings to Bethlehem, three crosses, usually made of evergreens, are fastened above the entrance to a Lithuanian home. They are left there till January 6th, the day of Epiphany, and also of the three kings. In the evening, men in costume representing the kings go from house to house and once more there is feasting and gayety.

#### Polish Celebrations

Christmas among the Poles is a very important and beautiful time. The celebration may be said to begin on December 6th, with St. Nicholas day. On that day in the villages in the old country, St. Nicholas, dressed in the robes of a bishop and attended by an angel and a devil who rattles chains and has a long red tongue, goes from house to house. He tests the children's knowledge of the catechism and of their prayers and inquires about their behavior. If they come up to his requirements, he rewards them with small presents and promises them others at Christmas. Children whose conduct has been unsatisfactory are warned seriously and are put on probation till Christmas. In the United States the custom of having St. Nicholas actually visit the family is not usually observed. Instead, the mother may tell the children that he will come after they are asleep and ask for a report on their conduct. They write letters to tell St. Nicholas what they want for Christmas and place them on the win-

dow sill and by the fireplace where St. Nicholas can get at them easily.

Christmas eve is of great importance and Polish housewives prepare for it with much care. Certain traditional dishes are served in most households on this occasion: As in many European countries, cakes in the shape of animals are much used. Before the meal prayers are said. Then wafers which are stamped with Christmas emblems and which have been blessed in church, are distributed. Each one shares his wafer with everyone else present, at the same time wishing him health and prosperity during the coming year. When the first star appears in the sky they begin to eat. It is very important that an even number of persons sit down at table. If for any reason someone fails to come, a passing stranger will be invited in. Like the Lithuanian housewife, the Polish woman places straw under the tablecloth. After the meal the girls tell fortunes by means of the straw. Anyone fortunate enough to find an unthreshed ear of grain will be married soon and will be prosperous. The Christmas tree is widely used in Polish Christmas eve celebrations.

Midnight mass is held on Christmas night in Polish churches both in Europe and in the United States. The churches are decorated with Christmas trees and are brilliantly lighted. In each church there is a Christmas crib which is not dismantled till the day of the three kings, January 6th. In Poland on this day, the priest of the parish goes to the houses of his parishioners to bless their homes with holy water. Above the entrance he writes the initials to the three kings, a ceremony which carries a blessing for the New Year. This celebration is known in Polish as the "Kolenda."

During the Christmas season, groups of boys in costume go from house to house singing Christmas carols. They often carry a Christmas crib with them. Marionette shows representing the story of the birth of Christ are frequent in Poland at Christmas. Christmas plays or pageants are also very popular. St. Joseph, the Virgin Mary, the shepherds, the three kings, are represented and they tell in verse the story of the birth of Christ. The Polish churches in America also observe this custom.

#### "Babuska" an Important Figure in Russia

Preceding Christmas the orthodox Russian observes a forty-day fast. His Christmas is closely associated with church; the service cele-

brated on Christmas night is unusually beautiful and impressive. The Russian Christmas is in many respects like that of the Ukrainian. Traditional Christmas gifts are red boots for children and gold slippers for young girls. "Babuska," grandmother, in certain parts of the country is the dispenser of gifts. According to one legend, she repented of unkindness and has ever since tried to make amends by distributing gifts to children on Christmas night. Another version is that she was offered an opportunity to accompany the three Kings on their journey but refused it. Later she regretted this and on Christmas eve she goes about looking for the Christ Child and giving gifts to the children she meets.

#### In the Scandinavian Countries

Christmas lasts at least two days in Scandinavian countries and in Finland, and sometimes three. Christmas eve is the time of greatest festivity. The evening meal begins the celebration. At this meal the Danish family eats roasted goose and red cabbage; the others substitute ham for the goose. All eat rice cooked in milk at this meal. A solitary almond is stirred into the rice and the lucky finder is awarded a prize of some sort.

In these countries it is a custom to place a sheaf of grain outside the window or in the snow-covered yard so that the birds may feast at Christmas. Pieces of suet are often hung on the trees in the garden. There is another custom which many children of those countries also observe. According to folklore, a little gnome-like creature, known as "Julenissen" or "Jultomten" lives in the household invisibly. He watches over its interests and he helps with the work. In reward for his services, children place delicacies about for him on Christmas eve. After everyone else is asleep, he comes out of his hiding place to eat them.

There is a Christmas tree in every Scandinavian home which can possibly afford it. More frequently than is the case in most countries nowadays, the ornaments are home-made, and hours are spent gilding nuts and making baskets and cornucopias for candy out of brightly-colored glazed paper. Pictures and images of "Julenissen" or "Jultomten" are everywhere. The convenient electric lights are used for illumination less frequently than elsewhere; old-fashioned Christmas candles are preferred and every year a large supply of them are imported into the United States for this purpose. In the old country the

Scandinavian child does not, as a rule, know Santa Claus; it is "Julenissen" or else "Julgubben," old man Christmas, who brings him gifts. In Sweden and Finland the Christmas tree is kept for some weeks, usually till January 13th, Canute's day, when the children in the neighborhood are invited to "plunder" it. It is a matter of great pride to the average youngster to have attended a large number of such "plunderings."

Instead of a midnight mass in Scandinavian churches there is an early service, usually at six on Christmas morning, in Swedish and Finnish churches; it is known as "Julotta." Lighted candles are placed in the windows of the houses to guide the churchgoers on their way and to give a festival appearance.

#### Ancient Rites Persist Among Ukrainians

As the Ukrainian churches, both the Greek Orthodox and the Uniate, adhere to the "old style" calendar, their Christmas celebration occurs thirteen days after ours, on January 6th. With the Ukrainian as with most other European groups, Christmas eve is of peculiar importance and is observed with much traditional ceremony and festivity.

Though Christmas eve belongs in the forty-day fast period which precedes Christmas in the Greek Orthodox Church, the meal served on that occasion is very elaborate. In the old country it invariably consists of twelve courses; here it is as bountiful as the family income permits. The Ukrainian housewife strews hay or straw on her dining table and spreads a tablecloth over it. She also strews it on the floor and places a sheaf-of wheat in a corner of the room. These rites are very old; they are probably in commemoration of the humble surroundings of Christ's birth, but they may have been incorporated into the Christmas celebration from some pagan harvest festival. When the first star appears in the sky, the family sits down to dinner. During the meal someone throws a handful of kuya to the ceiling. If it sticks, the coming year will be a prosperous and happy one. According to many legends, on this night animals have the power of speech and of prophecy. That they may share in the Christmas festivities, a feast is prepared for them also.

At midnight the Ukrainian family attends midnight mass. Invariably a Christmas crib has been constructed in the church; for this purpose, images of the Christ Child, St. Joseph and the Virgin Mary, and possibly of the shepherds, are

used. In this country, evergreens are used for decorating the church on this occasion, but such was not the case in the old country.

Among Ukrainians in Europe Christmas extends for three days; this has been curtailed here to fit industrial conditions. In the Ukrainian villages, during these days, singers known as "Koladniky" go from house to house singing the "Koladky," folksongs which tell of the birth of Christ and the events of his life. They usually carry a manger with them, and in some villages they perform simple miracle plays. They are rewarded by gifts of food and money. These processions have been amusingly "Americanized." In the United States during Christmas week, representative men visit the Ukrainian households and collect money for the support of the educational enterprises undertaken by the Ukrainians in the old country. After the fashion of the "Koladniky," they generally preface these requests with a few bars of song.

In the Greek Orthodox Church, on the 6th of January (or 19th of January according to the old calendar), occurs a ceremony known as "the blessing of the water". Among Ukrainians it is called "Bohoyavlenia"; in common speech it is also known as "Jordan". In the old country on that day the priests lead a procession from the villages to a nearby stream. There the ice is broken and the water blessed with impressive ceremony. Meanwhile, special songs are sung. They are strange and wild; they are said to be the oldest in the Ukrainian language, so old that today the meaning of some of them is no longer clear.

Each person is given some of the water which has been blessed and it is highly valued by the devout. In the United States, as far as is known, no such processions are held, but in the Ukrainian churches water that has been blessed is on that day distributed to the congregation.



Courtesy of Albert Bonnier, New York

### Varying Customs in Yugoslavia

Each of the three principal racial groups constituting the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes had Christmas customs of its own before the union took place, and had likewise borrowed customs from its neighbors,—the Serbians, who belong to the Greek Orthodox Church from their co-religionists in the East and the Slovenes and Croatians from their German and Italian neighbors. Consequently, though there are a few customs chiefly derived from pre-Christian times which are common to all three groups, or at least to two of them, Christmas is celebrated in divers ways in Yugoslavia.

December 6th, St. Nicholas day, is, as in a number of central European countries, the day for gifts in Slovenia. St. Nicholas, with a devil in attendance, distributes presents among the children. Gifts and Christmas trees are not customary at Christmas except among the wealthier people. The Slovenian housewife, however, prepares assiduously for Christmas, cleaning and baking for several weeks beforehand. She makes a Christmas crib, or manger, with skill and care. Every Slovenian household must have one and it is also found in many Croatian homes. Expeditions to the forests to gather moss with which to line the crib are a Christmas custom widely observed. The cribs are usually elaborate; there will be a background representing Bethlehem, and images of the Christ Child, the Virgin, and St. Joseph, and sometimes also of the shepherds, the three Kings and the animals. Quite frequently there will be an old-fashioned music box which plays Christmas carols.

At Christmas the Slovenian housewife bakes a large loaf of poppy-seed bread, which is consecrated with certain traditional rites. It is then kept carefully throughout the year and is cut on festival occasions, serving as a symbol. The Christmas eve meal is meatless, as in other Catholic countries. On the morning of Christmas day, and also of Easter Sunday, the traditional breakfast consists of ham served with horseradish.

The Serbian strews his table with hay or straw at Christmas time. At the Christmas day dinner he and also his Croat brother, are likely to eat roasted suckling pig, which must be carved according to definite rites. A dish peculiar to the Croatian Christmas is the "Kolach," a ring-shaped coffee cake. Three candles are placed within its

hollow. The first is lighted on Christmas eve; the father of the family makes the sign of the cross with it saying, "Christ is born," the others responding, "He is born indeed." The second candle is lighted at noon on Christmas day; after a prayer it is blown out. Where the head of the family is a farmer, he hastens to his granary and sticks the still warm candle into the grain. From the amount of grain adhering to the candle, he can estimate his crop for the following season. The third candle is not lighted until New Year's day and the cake is not cut until the three Kings day, January 6th, when each member of the family gets a slice to symbolize his share in the good fortune of the coming year.

The Croats and Serbians have several Christmas customs in common. Both plant wheat on a plate on December 10th. By Christmas day there is a miniature field of wheat which serves as decoration, usually being set on the window sill. They also have a Yule log custom which is not found among Slovenians. Before sunrise on Christmas morning, the men of the family go into a nearby forest to fell a young tree. They bring it back in state and lighted candles are held on each side of the door through which it is carried into the home. Corn and wine are sprinkled on it and sometimes it is wreathed with garlands. As soon as it is burning brightly, a neighbor, chosen beforehand for the ceremony, strikes the log sharply with a rod of iron or wood and as the sparks fly from it, he chants his wishes for the prosperity of the family; may they have as many horses, as many cattle, as the sparks; may their harvest be as bountiful, and other wishes of similar sort.

The day of the three Kings, January 6th, is observed by the Yugoslavs with feasting and merrymaking. Three crosses are marked above the entrance door and sometimes also the initials of the three Kings, Balthazar, Caspar, and Melchior. On the evening of January 5th, groups of men and boys go from house to house, often costumed to represent the three kings, and singing carols. They are given presents of food or money. The day of three Kings is looked forward to in Yugoslavia with additional eagerness because as soon as it is over, the Carnival season begins, lasting until Ash Wednesday. In most sections of the Kingdom this is a period of great gayety and festivity.

## Work and Play for the Unemployed

The erection of community houses or shelters on existing Westchester playgrounds and the conditioning of fields to make year-round recreation programs possible head the list of recommendations made today as a relief measure in the present unemployment situation. The recommendations are included in a report made to recreation officials throughout Westchester County by the committee appointed for that purpose at a recent conference.

Recognizing that the first and foremost interest of the unemployed person is the search for work, the Committee nevertheless emphasizes the importance of maintaining the morale of the unemployed by providing recreation for such periods of the day when job-hunting is practically futile. In the report, sent out over the signatures of the six committee-members, the following recommendations are listed:

1. In keeping with the recommendation of President Hoover and other national authorities that needed public works be undertaken without delay, that each local recreation commission and welfare agency urge upon its respective city, town or village officials (a) the necessity for advancing the work of grading and conditioning existing playgrounds, providing permanent surfacing and doing other desirable park work; (b) the desirability of constructing community centers, field or shelter houses at existing playgrounds and in congested sections, to carry out the plan of all-year-round recreation; and (c) that where possible all such work be contracted for promptly to assist in relieving the unemployment conditions.

2. That the present excessive leisure time of unemployed residents of communities be occupied as far as possible by (a) various institutions, clubs and welfare organizations establishing heated rest centers and placing temporarily at the disposal of local unemployed workers their reading and game rooms and what other facilities it may be consistent to offer in the emergency; (b) that all public libraries and municipal indoor recreation facilities or temporarily vacant space, which may be available for the purpose, be placed at the free disposal of unemployed persons, and that programs of recreation be provided therein; (c) that efforts be made to secure the cooperation of local theaters to the end that a given number of free admissions be allowed each day, at other than

peak hours, to be distributed by the local recreation authorities or by a cooperating welfare group.

3. That places operated as employment agencies be provided also, wherever possible, with space and facilities for worthwhile leisure time activities, such as reading, checkers, chess, cards, etc., or that such recreation be provided for at places located with convenient reference to the place of registration for unemployed.

4. That there be associated with employment agencies and recreation places, available to unemployed, some tools and facilities, as well as instruction whereby men and women may adapt their skills to the manufacture of articles for which there may be a ready market.

5. That the opportunity be taken now to improve back yards for the play of children, thus providing employment for available unemployed workers.

The personnel of the Committee is as follows: E. Wetmore Kinsley, Chairman Yonkers Community Service Commission; Mrs. Herbert L. Baker, Mount Vernon Recreation Commission; Mrs. J. Noel Macy, Westchester County Recreation Commission; Mr. H. Q. White, Superintendent of Recreation, Mount Vernon; Mr. Frederick Sigglekow, Mount Kisco Recreation Commission; and Mr. George Hjelte, Superintendent Recreation, Westchester County.

### A Modern Challenge

*(Continued from page 479)*

would rejoice in the work of their hands. Their knowledge would be more than hearsay and more than booksay. And they would always be in high condition. The low condition multitude, as Oswald Spindler calls them, who, he predicts will be the ruin of civilization, would disappear. We are very far from having such a system at the present time—co-education of mind and body.

I am aware that this simple formula, with physical culture as the basis and art as the object, is exposed to the gravest misunderstanding. It may suggest to you a vision of people beginning their education by jumping over parallel bars and ending it by making knick-nacks. Were I addressing another kind of audience, I might have to explain that I mean nothing of the kind. But I know that such explanations are not necessary when addressing an audience like this.

## Honoring Craftsmen

(Continued from page 480)

University of the State of New York in Albany, three days are to be devoted to the discussion of adult education in view of the larger freedom which most persons now have to devote their attention to subjects outside of their vocation. The opportunities in art, music, in industry and in general culture, will be presented by authorities in the several fields under the chairmanship of Frederick Keppel, through whom the Carnegie Corporation is giving special support to the movement. Dr. Jacks is announced to give the "broader vision" of the part adult education may have in the life of the world today, and it is to that view that our American eyes need especially to be lifted.—*The New York Times*, October 10, 1930.

## Machinery and Man

(Continued from page 480)

creased effort with increased comforts and aspirations of living.

Science and mechanical engineering are doing their part, but social engineering lags behind in striking and ominous contrast. This is not due to the fact that inferior brains are devoted to social engineering. It is because the social scientists and technicians require more courage but fail to possess it. Modern business is on the alert to encourage and exploit natural science and engineering. It sees the prospect of greater profit therein. But it is fearful of social science, which may recommend policies that will curb and curtail irresponsible private business enterprise in the interest of human well-being.



Natural science and invention are free and unhampered in their work. Social science is subsidized by universities and foundations endowed by the custodians of things as they are. It is a brave investigator who will propose and execute a study likely to challenge the existing system. Indeed, if he does so propose the chances are that his research will be disapproved by the executives of the university or foundation. Unless we can have a full and free development of social science, the triumphs of science and technology will only hasten the day of the collapse of industrial civilization.—*The New York Telegram*, November 1, 1930.

## A Look Ahead

(Continued from page 508)

the importance of the work. It is a very noble, worthwhile work.

## An Old Message for New Leaders

Now, I don't think that this work will be properly done if it isn't done in an intelligent, straight-thinking way. We need leaders. And this is the message that I want to give to those leaders. It is an old message. The Athenian ideal, during the time of Pericles, was an equal distribution of mental and physical strength. Their ideal man was one who was mentally cultivated as well as physically cultivated. He was the standard bearer of the community.

In your work in the future, think of that ideal. There is no finer work—God never created anything better—than a perfectly coordinating human machine. A cultivated mind and a cultivated body is nature's masterpiece.

I don't think I overdraw the picture when I say that. Because of the present era and the new developments that are taking place, my mind runs ahead a century or two, and I can see a race who have had leisure for two centuries, and which leisure has been well utilized and directed. I can see that race a super-race. I do not know anybody who would be bold enough to say that two centuries of that sort of training would not make a superior people. The only thing that can hinder the materialization of that picture, as I see it, is war. Well, let us muzzle the dogs of war. They are obsolete, although to read the papers these days one wouldn't think so.

But we are looking forward. And with this

training and the materialization of the super-man, I can picture him as a realization of the Athenian ideal. And I hope that with that fine mind and body he will possess an appreciation of the truer values of life. In other words, I hope for a spiritual development, as well.

## A Modern Perspective

(Continued from page 511)

came a principal. Then he became principal of the school in which he was once a pupil. Then he became a district superintendent. But he also kept on with art.

At the age of 65, he retired from teaching. He went abroad, traveled a bit, and then began seriously the study of art, and at the age of 70 he had a picture hung in the Paris Salon.

What a beautiful illustration of a rich and varied life that man had!

How much American leisure will count for genuine happiness and culture depends chiefly on our teachers and our recreational workers, with those who touch the masses of our population who now have leisure as they did not have it in Aristotle's time.

Great music, great art, will rise here as in other countries, from widespread amateur interests on the part of the public. As John Erskine said to you last year, "Culture does not seep down from the top. It has its basis in the activities and in the achievements of the many."

Here is our opportunity and our inspiration. What we are having a share in is bound to be definitely one of the chief mediums in America for a joyous and sane use of leisure time.

Before I sit down, may I just for a moment make a contribution out of my own experience, and suggest to you a new form of recreation. My chief recreation is in walking. But it is rather tedious to walk back and forth in the same places every day. I vary them as much as I can.

It occurred to me a few months ago that I might walk in my imagination in some other part of the world as far every day as I actually walk with my feet. I got a pedometer and guide books. I started in on the West Coast of France. I looked at my pedometer the other day, and I have traveled 2842 miles since the 1st of January—about ten miles a day.

But I have not allowed myself, in my travels

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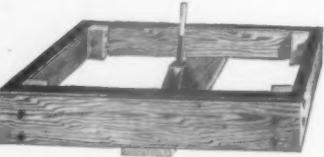
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"If one wishes to know whether a country will be prosperous and successful fifty years hence, the best plan is to observe what is being done by way of training and educating children."—*From report of Superintendent of Neglected and Dependent Children, Ontario, Canada.*

abroad, to go any farther than my pedometer has permitted me to go. Sometimes I have had to sleep out in the open when I wasn't able to reach the town that I wanted to reach. I remember one night I did reach the town of La Ferte in the North of France, and I seemed to remember that Robert Louis Stevenson had once passed that neighborhood. I looked up my book, and sure enough he had spent a night there.

One night I couldn't get to a village where I expected to spend the night according to my guide book. I had to stop short of it. And I found myself consulting my guide book, and discovered that Rousseau had lived for a time in a farm house there, and so I spent the night with him.

So I have gone to Florence and to Rome and from Rome to Naples, where I went to pay my homage to the tomb of Virgil; then to the South of Italy; thence by ship over to Greece. And a few nights ago I walked from Delphi down to Thebes, and I passed along the very road where Oedipus had killed his father. There were the crossroads, and so on.

And now I am over in Anatolia, down near the Silician Gates where Cyrus led his ten thousand and where Paul made his missionary jaunt. I hope to get to Jerusalem by Christmas.

"Where the 'settler' was concerned over the means to satisfy his wants and the time to do his vital tasks, the man of today fills his wants with 'ready made' goods and has more time than he knows what to do with."—*From Handicrafts and Hobbies, Child Study, June, 1930*

## Among Our Folks

L. Asselin has been appointed to fill the position left vacant by the death of Dr. J. P. Gadbois, who for a number of years served the City of Montreal as superintendent of the Department of Public Recreation.

Mrs. Elizabeth H. Hanley has become supervising dramatic director for the Playgrounds Association of Philadelphia and the Department of Public Welfare. She will supervise and train the dramatic directors in the various community centers and will conduct a Service Bureau for all who are interested.

Louis C. Schroeder, until recently associated with the staff of the International School of Physical Education at Geneva, Switzerland, has become the William E. Harmon Secretary on the staff of the National Recreation Association, succeeding Curtis L. Harrington.

Mrs. Emily Carmichael

Mrs. Emily L. Carmichael, for six years chief of the Bureau of Recreation, Department of Public Welfare of Philadelphia, died in October after an illness of several months. During the six year period in which Mrs. Carmichael served as chief, the recreation facilities maintained by the Bureau were built up until they included 39 recreation centers and 18 swimming pools.

Mrs. Carmichael was interested not only in recreation but in all phases of social work. It was through her efforts that the Social Service Department at Hahneman Hospital was organized. She was prominent in the Girl Scouts organization and was the first president of the Woman's Club of Germantown. She was also a member of the Woman's City Club and several school organizations.

## World at Play

## Recreation and Unemployment in Reading.

—Reading, Pennsylvania, has done much to increase its recreation facilities during the period of business depression. The School Board built seven wading pools and eleven tennis courts and developed two school playgrounds, while the city built one wading pool and constructed, beautified and fenced a new \$100,000 play area. The budget of the Department of Public Playgrounds and Recreation was increased from \$16,500 to \$30,000 and \$25,000 was appropriated to the Department of Parks and Public Property for the improvement of old playground sites. The city also spent \$4,000 to build a "Tom Thumb" golf course and turned it over to the Recreation Department for operation. The *Reading Times* newspaper, through popular subscription, constructed a \$75,000 swimming pool which has been given the Recreation Department for operation. Last year twenty-two playgrounds were operated by the Recreation Department with an increased attendance over 1929 of 127,606. This large increase was due in some degree to the participation of adults in evening activities; enforced unemployment played an important part in augmenting attendance at night. Many older boys, temporarily out of work, took part in activities during the day. The third factor in increasing the attendance was the reduced working hours especially in the large railroad plant which is operating only four days a week.

**A Plea for the Romantic.**—Joseph Lee writes: "A lady has just consulted me about a playground she is going to start. She wants to have a 'romantic' playground, giving the children the things that she used to do, especially coasting

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and wild flowers and a brook (though she has not really got the brook but can have a pond and wading). She also wants some of the regular playground things. She is all for trees, especially apple trees and will have a big coast.

"I want to reiterate my belief in the romantic for children's play, and that the worst thing that has happened is the comparative disappearance of the raiding games in their two main divisions typified by *I Spy* and *Robbers and Policemen*. They are even more than other games the sort that ought to be merely demonstrated and then the children let alone."

**Showing Their Appreciation.**—The following letter, signed by a number of working men, was received by the Department of Recreation and Playgrounds of Lynchburg, Virginia:

"We take great pleasure in writing and saying how we enjoyed your playground. We are working men on the C. & O. We came here about two months ago. We decided to take a stroll and what do you think we saw? A playground. Mrs. Morris, who is the lady who is attending to the playground, asked us to enjoy ourselves. So the first thing we did was to play croquet and we had

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a time! Besides that we played horseshoes and volley ball. So every evening we went up and had a good time. You don't know what a playground is until you don't have any place to go. We have to stay on cars so that was our only enjoyment. I thought we would swing ourselves to death in the swings up there. We are going to leave in about a week and we sure hate to say good-by to the playground. I think it is in a good location and that the city ought to have a hundred. So we will say good-by and sure do thank Mrs. Morris for being so kind to us."

**The Home Play Movement.**—Eighty-two cities in the United States and other countries are carrying on home play promotion programs, according to the report of Glen O. Grant of the Playground and Recreation Department of Los Angeles, one of the cities most active in the movement. During the three months covered by the report more than 6,000 homes in Los Angeles have received instruction in the art of developing a recreational program in which all members of the family will be interested. Bulletins, plans of backyard playgrounds and other information have been distributed by municipal and school play-

grounds, public libraries and civic groups taking part in the campaign.

**Sir Thomas Lipton Takes a Hand.**—Last summer the Recreation Commission of South Orange, New Jersey, conducted miniature yacht races in the swimming pool. J. J. Farrell, superintendent of recreation, had the happy idea of writing Sir Thomas Lipton asking him if he would sign six certificates to be awarded the winners. And the day before the races the certificates arrived!

**A Chicago Champion.**—A Chicago, Illinois, boy has made a remarkable record in horseshoe pitching. John Calao, thirteen years of age, has defeated every champion who has come to Chicago. Ogden Park, where he plays, as a result has become an outstanding horseshoe pitching center. In the Cook County horseshoe pitching tournament recently held, the score card of this remarkable player's game qualifying him for the tournament showed that he pitched 100 shoes in 50 innings. In none of these innings did he miss putting either one or two rings on the stake. In one game a state champion led him by a score of 44 to 19, but the boy eventually won the game by a score of 50 to 44.

**Mass Football in Altoona.**—A plan for mass football has been organized by the Department of Parks and Recreation of Altoona, Pennsylvania, to give hundreds of boys an opportunity to enter into some sort of organized sport. Six boys familiar with the fundamentals of football, such as passing, punting, drop kicking and placement kicking, were employed and sent into six communities of the city. The enrolment soon rose to over 500 boys. In an effort to teach the fundamentals, such games as pass football, touch football and kick football were organized. At the conclusion of the two weeks practice and play, each district held a meeting, the winners competing in a final meet.

**Boxing Matches Helped!**—The playground supervisor of Macon, Georgia, had on her hands at one of the public parks a gang of boys who were too old to swing and not patient enough to await turns at tennis. And basketball and football were out of season. They were her "problem" but with her encouragement they worked out their own salvation. One day they requested two pairs of boxing gloves. She readily provided

them and the matches began. The first night the embryonic boxers fought within a rope ring on the ground, and before the evening was over there were 250 spectators. Then they stretched another rope and charged for ring-side standing room, making enough money to build a regular platform for their bouts. Eventually the supervisor found herself borrowing chairs from the City Hall and hauling them to the park in her car. Then wrestling and boxing matches became weekly affairs. On Thursday evenings all through the summer the entire neighborhood gathered for the events, and the last crowd before the group disbanded for school was estimated at 2,000. A post-season benefit match was held which enabled the boys to wind up their happiest summer with a notable barbecue and picnic.

**More Children on Fewer Playgrounds.**—Because of the condition of the city treasury, the Bureau of Recreation of Evanston, Illinois, this year was able to open only eight playgrounds instead of the twelve or more conducted in previous years. The total registration for the year showed an increase of 4,000 over previous years. The total attendance for the eleven weeks during the summer exceeded 262,000, a number larger by 15,000 than any previous year's summer playground attendance. This increase demonstrated the growing popularity of the summer playground, for regardless of the fact that there were fewer grounds more children traveled further to enjoy the privileges of the playgrounds than in any previous year.

**Baseball in Cleveland.**—Many boys played baseball in Cleveland this summer under the organization guidance of the City Recreation Department and the Cleveland Baseball Commission, cooperating with settlements and other groups. In addition to over 100 teams in the Class "E" leagues, a new grouping in Class "F" called "Rookies" resulted in 133 teams playing regular league schedules. Many of these were without any semblance of uniform and the question of furnishing them with balls and bats was a difficult one. Boys' Day at the American League Park brought out some who are not in these leagues. On the morning following Boys' Day the business office of the League called the Recreation Commission and asked, "How many tickets did you issue for Boys' Day?" The answer was 14,000. "Ye Gods," said the representative of the League, "there were over 18,000 kids there!"



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## A Year Round Playground THE JUNGLEGYM

Spring, Summer, Fall, Winter—all seasons look alike. For the Jungle Gym is not bothered by changes in the weather. Warmly clad, the children play on it as freely in winter as in summer. At a season when many children are forced to play indoors, the Jungle Gym offers them the opportunity of exercising in safety as well as being out in the fresh air. You'll find no hot house children with a Jungle Gym at hand. Absolutely safe with its graduated bars on all sides for the children to grasp.

The model Jungle Gym pictured above is capable of handling 1 to 75 children.

### Jungle Gym Junior the little brother

Smaller in all ways than the Jungle Gym, but purposely so. For the younger children from 3 to 8 years old.



Steel or Wood

JUNGLEGYM JUNIOR

*A. G. Spalding & Bro.*

Playground Department

Chicopee

Mass.

## Book Reviews

**THE CREATIVE HOME.** Ivah Everett Deering. Richard R. Smith, Inc., New York City. \$1.50. The purpose and content of this delightful book have been outlined by Joseph Lee in his Introduction, quoted in full by permission of the publisher.

"This is a book for parents, full of most wise and practical suggestions, based on the author's own experience, upon how to foster the native powers of their children through creative play. It tells what so many parents want to know, with a combination of detailed advice as to just what to do, with true insight as to how to do it—and above all how not to do it—that is most rare and valuable.

"The list of plays described is not meant to be exhaustive—how could it be when a new game is invented every hour and in every nursery? But they illustrate a wide range of the child's exploration and achievement—in speech and action; in song and poetry; in play with dolls and blocks and sand and mud, with brush and pencil; in watching birds and squirrels and telling his adventures—from the first one-syllable song of Rollo to part singing and family dramatics.

"The activities suggested are very simple, requiring no material or apparatus beyond what every parent already has or can easily obtain—or better still, can show the children how to make—except that in some instances country or suburban surroundings are assumed. Simplicity is recommended not as a measure of economy, but to save the children from that plethora of ready-made resources and entertainment that is the nightmare of the American nursery.

"In her detailed statement of what and when and where, the author shows remarkable sympathy and understanding. She seems to have visited with Froebel and other great explorers the still uncharted world of childhood and has brought back precious information. She shows the vital importance of appreciation; not exaggerated praise, but confirmation, that social acceptance of achievement that everybody needs. She shows how a little suggestion at the right moment may be decisive of a great development and how a very little more is often fatal. She makes you feel the all-important truth that more harm may be done by interference, with the best intentions, than even by neglect.

"She shows, upon the other hand, how a little indifference, a very slight rebuff—being too busy to listen at the one moment when the story can be told—may cause a permanent discouragement; how very easily these first buds are checked; how laughing at a child—the thoughtless grown-up laughter so naturally called forth by the ludicrous discrepancy between the reality at which he aims and his performance, of which so many of us have been guilty—may mean the permanent losing of our chance—and his. She shows the supreme value of forbearance, the sacred use of let-alone.

"The service thus modestly set forth is that of guide to the heart and impulse of the child, that of a textbook on how to encourage in him the spontaneous authentic expression of those spiritual forces that are the essence of his life, the germ of everything he is to be."

**THE PRACTICE STORY-TELLING CLASS.** Frances Weld Danielson. The Pilgrim Press, Boston, Massachusetts. \$1.25.

Miss Danielson has cleverly introduced the fundamental story-telling principles in the reports of an imaginary class, and this new method of approach adds greatly to the interest of the book. It depicts through conversation the progress of the members of a class who are told at the outset that they are not going to study the values of the uses of the stories but are simply going to learn how to tell stories. In this delightful manner information is given regarding stories of various types and ways of telling stories.

**THE LEISURE OF A PEOPLE—REPORT OF A RECREATION SURVEY OF INDIANAPOLIS.** The Council of Social Agencies, 323 Meyer-Kiser Bank Building, Indianapolis, Indiana. \$1.50.

No phase of a community's leisure time life has been omitted in this effort to discover "what manner of a city is this Indianapolis," and to recommend what should be done to increase the richness of life of its citizens.

The survey of Indianapolis reports a most comprehensive study conducted under the auspices of The Council of Social Agencies and financed by the Indianapolis Foundation. It was directed by Eugene T. Lies of the staff of the National Recreation Association. Dr. Cyrus F. Stimson of the Association acted as consultant. The report of the study has been issued in a volume of approximately 570 pages and contains a number of tables, charts and maps. There is much of human interest as well as facts and figures in this study and a wealth of information on home play, on trends in the leisure time movement, legislation for play, and similar subjects.

**A LIST OF BOOKS FOR GIRLS.** Compiled by Effie L. Power. The H. W. Wilson Company, New York. 2 copies \$25; 10 copies \$1.00.

The fourth revised edition of this list of books for girls under fifteen gives a brief resume of each book recommended.

STATEMENT OF THE OWNERSHIP, MANAGEMENT, CIRCULATION, ETC., REQUIRED BY THE ACT OF CONGRESS OF AUGUST 24, 1912, OF PLAYGROUND AND RECREATION, published monthly at New York, N. Y., for October 1, 1930.

STATE OF NEW YORK }  
COUNTY OF NEW YORK }  
ss.

Before me, a Notary Public in and for the State and county aforesaid, personally appeared H. S. Braucher, who, having been duly sworn according to law, deposes and says that he is the editor of the PLAYGROUND AND RECREATION, and that the following is, to the best of his knowledge and belief, a true statement of the ownership, management (and if a daily paper, the circulation), etc., of the aforesaid publication for the date shown in the above caption, required by the Act of August 24, 1912, embodied in section 411, Postal Laws and Regulations, printed on the reverse of this form, to wit:

1. That the names and addresses of the publisher, editor, managing editor, and business manager are:

Publisher: National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Editor: H. S. Braucher, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Managing Editor: H. S. Braucher, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Business Manager: Arthur Williams, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

2. That the owner is: (If owned by a corporation, its name and address must be stated and also immediately thereunder the names and addresses of stockholders owning or holding one per cent or more of total amount of stock. If not owned by a corporation, the names and addresses of the individual owners must be given. If owned by a firm, company, or other unincorporated concern, its name and address, as well as those of each individual member, must be given.)

National Recreation Association, 315 Fourth Avenue, New York, N. Y.

Mrs. Edward W. Biddle, Carlisle, Pa.; William Butterworth, Moline, Ill.; Clarence M. Clark, Philadelphia, Pa.; Henry L. Corbett, Portland, Ore.; Mrs. Arthur G. Cummer, Jacksonville, Fla.; W. Monroe Davison, Locust Valley, N. Y.; Mrs. Thomas A. Edison, West Orange, N. J.; John H. Finley, New York, N. Y.; Hugh Frayne, New York, N. Y.; Robert Garrett, Baltimore, Md.; Mrs. Charles A. Goodwin, Hartford, Conn.; Austin E. Grimths, Seattle, Wash.; William Hale Harbless, New York, N. Y.; Charles Haydon, New York, N. Y.; Mrs. Charles V. Hobson, Michigan City, Ind.; Mrs. Francis de Lucy Hyde, Plainfield, N. J.; Gustavus T. Kirby, New York, N. Y.; H. Mc K. Landon, Indianapolis, Ind.; Mrs. Arthur G. Cummer, Jacksonville, Fla.; Robert Lassiter, Charlotte, N. C.; Joseph Lee, Boston, Mass.; Edward E. Loomis, New York, N. Y.; J. H. McCurdy, Springfield, Mass.; Otto T. Mallory, Philadelphia, Pa.; Walter A. May, Pittsburgh, Pa.; Carl E. Milliken, Augusta, Me.; Ellen Scripps, La Jolla, Cal.; Harold H. Swift, Chicago, Ill.; Frederick S. Tittsworth, New York, N. Y.; Mrs. James W. Wadsworth, Jr., Washington, D. C.; J. C. Walsh, New York, N. Y.; Frederick M. Warburg, New York, N. Y.; C. E. Weston, Scranton, Pa.; John G. Winsor, Concord, N. H.; Mrs. William H. Woodin, Jr., Plainfield, N. J.

3. That the known bondholders, mortgagees, and other security holders owning or holding 1 per cent or more of total amount of bonds, mortgages, or other securities are: (If there are none, so state.) None.

4. That the two paragraphs next above, giving the names of the owners, stockholders, and security holders, if any, contain not only the list of stockholders and security holders as they appear upon the books of the company but also, in cases where the stockholder or security holder appears upon the books of the company as trustee or in any other fiduciary relation, the name of the person or corporation for whom such trustee is acting, is given; also that the said two paragraphs contain statements embracing affiant's full knowledge and belief as to the circumstances and conditions under which stockholders and security holders who do not appear upon the books of the company as trustee, hold stock and securities in a capacity other than that of a bona fide owner; and this affiant has no reason to believe that any other person, association, or corporation has any interest direct or indirect in the said stock, bonds, or other securities than as so stated by him.

5. That the average number of copies of each issue of this publication sold or distributed, through the mails or otherwise, to paid subscribers during the six months preceding the date shown above is (this information is required from daily publications only.)

H. S. BRAUCHER  
(Seal)  
Queens County Clerk's No. 1043. Certificate filed in New York County Clerk's No. 592.

(My commission expires March 30, 1932.)